

Law Enforcement News

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DC cops become bridge-builders

Officers in door-to-door campaign to win back community

In an attempt to foster public trust in the agency and bring residents and officers closer together, the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C., is engaging in a massive, yearlong effort to personally introduce residents to the officers who protect and patrol their neighborhoods.

The "Door-to-Door Citizen Contact Campaign," which was begun in April by then Assistant Police Chief Robert S. White, involves officers knocking on the doors of every resident in a given patrol sector in the city's seven police districts, said Cmdr. William P. McManus, who is overseeing the effort.

Armed with fliers that provide information about the district, the services it provides and a list of its key personnel, the officers try to open a line of communication with residents by introducing themselves and inquiring about any problems the resident might be having in the neighborhood.

The fliers also outline the department's philosophy and provide information about new programs being put into place by recently appointed Police

Chief Charles Ramsey, whose chief task is to restore public confidence in the scandal-ridden agency.

Ramsey is widely credited as the guiding hand behind the Chicago Police Department's successful community policing effort, Chicago Alternative Policing Services (CAPS).

The meet-and-greet effort in Washington, begun under former acting Police Chief Sonya Proctor, has been embraced by Ramsey, who told *The Washington Post*: "At every opportunity, police officers need to be reaching out to the public.... We're going to be doing more of it."

"It's basically outreach to the community to get involved," observed McManus, a 23-year veteran whose district covers downtown and Capitol Hill.

Officers make their house calls at the leisure of the sergeant assigned to supervise the targeted patrol service area, to ensure that the effort does not adversely affect crime-fighting efforts. The patrol sectors are divided into grids, with each officer assigned a certain area and given a deadline to meet.

Officers ask residents for their names and phone numbers to apprise them of department activities or crime problems in the neighborhood. Residents are not required to provide that information, McManus said, but they are asked to initial a form so the officers can track the residences they've covered.

Officers will return to homes where they failed to receive an initial response, and will return a third time if there's still no response. "After that, we leave the flier at the door," McManus said.

McManus, who said the program will continue through the end of the year, was unable to provide LEN with the number of contacts made, since each district is responsible for keeping track of its progress.

"It's a very big undertaking," he noted. "You've got 83 different patrol sectors, 83 letters with 83 sets of different information. But the effort is worth it. It actually shows the community we are making an effort to reach out to them and try to gain their support."

Anyone for fudge? Philadelphia PD recounts district crime data that may have been muffed

The Philadelphia Police Department is conducting a recount of crime statistics compiled by a West Philadelphia district whose captain had boasted earlier this year of dramatic drops in crime under his command.

Captain Daniel Castro of the 16th District was relieved of his command "for internal reasons" by Police Commissioner John Timoney on June 26, said Capt. Linda MacLachlin, a police spokeswoman. But MacLachlin said that local press reports linking the demotion to the apparent inconsistencies in crime stats were purely speculative.

However, the agency is now re-examining statistics submitted by Castro, a 13-year veteran who was assigned to the Internal Affairs Bureau for five years before being named in November to lead the 16th District, which had the sixth-largest rate of major crimes last year. Castro said he had launched intensive patrols and a crackdown on

fugitives to quell crime in the area.

"It involves a whole lot of people, doing a whole lot of work," MacLachlin told LEN, referring to the recount. The department will resubmit corrected statistics to the FBI and make them public as well, she added.

In April, Castro told *The Philadelphia Inquirer* that robberies had declined 80 percent between January and March of this year as a result of beefed-up patrols and concentrated efforts to apprehend people wanted on arrest warrants or those who failed to appear in court.

The Quality Assurance Division, which was put in place by Timoney earlier this year to ensure the accuracy of crime stats, reviewed numbers submitted by the district. An unnamed source told *The Inquirer* that the review uncovered a pattern by which burglaries, thefts and robberies were downgraded to reports of "missing property."

Most police pattern their crime categories after major-crime classifications devised by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program; "missing property" is not one of them.

The review concluded that the number of offenses in the 16th District that were downgraded was too large to be attributed to error. When Castro was confronted with the discrepancies, he claimed he had done nothing improper and maintained his statistics were accurate.

Timoney named Thomas Walsh to replace Castro. Walsh previously worked the night shift, to which Castro was transferred.

The development was the latest in a series of problems with crime statistics to bedevil the Philadelphia P.D. In May, Timoney ordered an internal-affairs investigation of all crime statistics for 1997 after *The Inquirer* raised questions about their accuracy. Officials later ad-

mitted that hundreds if not thousands of thefts were omitted from statistics submitted to the FBI because of kinks in a new system that records non-violent crimes.

Last fall, the department withdrew its 1996 crime data after it was revealed that crimes were listed based on when they were entered into police computers, not when they actually occurred. The delay in entering the data, which the newspaper said ranged from several months to a year or more, did not paint a true picture of the crime situation in Philadelphia and made it impossible to compare its crime rates with those of other cities.

Do Atlanta's crime stats add up?

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation has begun an audit of how Atlanta police compiled crime statistics for 1996, following allegations by a high-ranking police official that police supervisors misreported numbers and reclassified violent crimes to make it appear that crime had decreased.

The controversy over the crime data led to an unprecedented inquiry by the City Council's Public Safety Committee to examine the allegations by former Deputy Chief Louis Arcangeli, who was in charge of the Technical Services Division but was demoted to captain shortly before he made the claims in a series of memos written mostly in 1997.

A police spokeswoman, Jan
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The summer of their discontent: Gun issues reverberate coast to coast

The spate of school shootings nationwide in the past year has refueled the ever-volatile issue of gun control. The shootings, the most recent of which occurred in Springfield, Ore., when a 15-year-old boy opened fire on a cafeteria full of his fellow students, killing two, has prompted several proposals to limit youths' access to weapons.

Also heating up is the issue of allowing survivors of those mur-

dered by guns to sue manufacturers for liability as well as a proposal to extend the Brady Law's five-day waiting period to purchase guns. Meanwhile, law enforcement agencies in several jurisdictions are seeking to reduce gun violence through enforcement initiatives based on the successful Boston Gun Project.

The following reports on firearms issues have been compiled by Law Enforcement News in recent weeks:

Washington, D.C. — President Clinton has chided Republican opponents in Congress for their attempts to block a bill that would hold adults liable when a child commits a crime with a gun that was not securely stored or did not have a safety lock.

The bill, which calls for a maximum

penalty of a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine, is now sponsored by Senators John Chafee (R.-R.I.) and Richard Durbin (D.-Ill.). A similar proposal is part of a broader bill in the House sponsored by Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D.-N.Y.).

"We can't shrug our shoulders and

say, 'Well, accidents will happen,' or 'Some kids are just beyond hope.' That is just a cop-out," Clinton said at a news conference July 8.

Suzann Wilson, the mother of Britney Vamer, 11, one of four children killed in the Jonesboro, Ark., school shooting in March, appeared

with Clinton at the news conference, along with Attorney General Janet Reno, and two officials who've been touched by gun violence, McCarthy and Maryland Lieut. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend.

Townsend's father, Senator Robert
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Around the Nation

Northeast



CONNECTICUT — The NAACP is leading a statewide program called "Operation Blind Justice" that plans to track the frequency with which black residents are stopped by police using profiling.

State Police Sgt. Lawrence J. Pagan, 42, of East Lyme, was arrested on drunken driving charges on June 17, but his name never appeared on the Norwich police log, which normally lists all arrests and other police activity. Pagan was off-duty when arrested, but driving an unmarked State Police vehicle.

A show featuring Bristol's 25 most wanted offenders was scheduled to begin airing July 6 on Nutmeg Public Access Television. The show will display photos of scofflaws and at-large criminals who have failed to appear in court to answer charges ranging from burglary to sexual assault.

DELAWARE — Rehoboth Beach police will begin publicizing the names of those caught urinating in public, in an effort to discourage the behavior.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — District Inspector General Barrett Prettyman said June 23 that of the nearly 250,000 calls placed to 911 in the capital since January, nearly 50,000 were not answered for at least 16 seconds. Worse, 13 percent were not answered at all because callers gave up. His report blamed "abuse" of sick leave by 911 operators.

MARYLAND — Frederick T. Moore IV, 34, was beaten and attacked by police dogs when sheriff's deputies in Frederick mistook diabetic shock for drunken belligerence. Moore was stopped for driving erratically on June 12. When ordered to pull over and turn off his engine, he growled from between clenched teeth and grabbed his gearshift lever. Moore, who spent four days in the hospital, was hit at least 10 times in the upper body and suffered dog bites on his buttocks and back, said his lawyer.

A report on youth gangs in the Washington/Baltimore area has warned that not only are they on the rise, with 622 so far identified, but their behavior is becoming increasingly violent. With few exceptions, almost all of the jurisdictions within the area reported an increase in juvenile gang activity, including carjackings, threats, intimidation and murder.

MASSACHUSETTS — State troopers will use unmarked vehicles, including taxi cabs, Camaros and station wagons, in a campaign to rid the roads of aggressive drivers, officials said in June.

NEW HAMPSHIRE — The public will be given access to the names of convicted child molesters under a bill signed in June by Gov. Jeanne Shaheen. The law will bring the state into compliance with a Federal statute that created a national sex offender registry.

The death of a police dog on June

24 has prompted State Police officials to reevaluate a policy of keeping the dogs in cars with the air conditioner on while officers are in court or other buildings. Archie, an 8-year-old German shepherd, was found by his partner, Trooper Patrick Palmer, barely breathing. Archie had been in the car with the air conditioner on, but the unit had failed. Palmer was unable to resuscitate him.

The Hampton School Board in June unanimously approved the placement of a full-time police officer at the Hampton Academy Junior High School. The board's action allows officials to apply for a Federal grant that would cover 75 percent of the cost. The officer, who would be in plainclothes with his weapon concealed, would get involved in peer mediation activities and conflict resolution situations.

NEW JERSEY — Jersey City Police Officer Kimberly Greenleaf, 36, was acquitted July 8 of killing her boyfriend, fellow officer Thomas Marchitto, after she told jurors that she shot in self-defense at the end of an abusive, three-year relationship. Marchitto was hit in the throat after he began beating Greenleaf in an argument that started when she broke off their relationship.

NEW YORK — New York City's Civilian Complaint Review Board has approved the use of controversial hollow-point bullets for the entire NYPD, concluding after a 15-month study that the choice of ammunition should be left to the discretion of Police Commissioner Howard Safir. Safir has said previously that he wanted all police to carry hollow-points, which cause devastating wounds when they expand on impact, but are said to pose less danger to bystanders.

Charges against a New York City police officer accused of ramming his ex-girlfriend's car in a 1997 chase were dismissed July 1 after a District Court judge ruled a Nassau County prosecutor had improperly instructed the grand jury on the law. The officer, Steven Sonntag, 32, was suspended for 30 days without pay after the incident. Judge Elaine Jackson Stack said the jury should have been told that Sonntag's actions may have been justified since he was attempting to flee his former girlfriend, Cindy Lewis, who was chasing him in her car. Lewis maintains that she and Sonntag were engaged in a high-speed chase through Levittown that ended when the cars raced out of control and Sonntag deliberately drove his car into hers.

Debbie McCabe, 21, was sentenced June 24 to at least 10 years behind bars for the murder of off-duty New York City police Officer Brian Fasaek in May 1997. His slaying was mired in controversy. Investigators said he picked up McCabe, a prostitute, and drove to a secluded site in the north Bronx. McCabe said she accidentally shot Fasaek when he discovered she had a gun and reached for his own weapon. His death was a mystery until McCabe was questioned as a witness.

New York City's parks will no longer be sealed during drug raids, nor will law-abiding people be kept from leaving them, under a change in policy that resulted from the brief detention of a college professor last summer dur-

ing a sweep of Washington Square Park. Lloyd G. McNeill, 62, an associate professor at Rutgers University, had tried to leave the park to meet with a student when he was told he would be put in handcuffs if he crossed a police barrier. McNeill did, and was, before a higher-ranking officer freed him. He sued, agreeing to settle if the department issued new guidelines that keep officers from sealing the park. McNeill was also awarded \$10,000 and payment of his legal fees.

Murder in New York City plunged again — by 23.5 percent — during the first six months of 1998, putting the city on a pace for the fewest killings since 1965. The murder rate has dropped so precipitously that officials are considering whether it is necessary to maintain the city's six trauma centers. [See LEN, April 30, 1998.]

New York City Police Officer Jose Ramos, 29, plans to file a \$3-million negligence suit against the Police Department, claiming that his bosses failed to take steps that could have prevented him from being shot last August by his obsessed former lover, Officer Sharon Holder. Before she shot Ramos three times, Holder had broken into the married officer's home in 1994 to get his unlisted telephone number; called NYNEX claiming to be his wife and ordering his phone records; and broke his car antenna. Ramos's lawyer claims that the department's Internal Affairs Bureau "[swept] this under rug." Holder pleaded guilty last March to assault and violating a court order to avoid contacting Ramos.

A fugitive wanted for attempted murder in Florida was arrested June 28 by New York City police officers who had stopped him for a quality-of-life offense — having his dog off a leash. Herman Colon, 21, was asked for identification by Officers Anthony Spennicchia and Mike Turchiano when they saw him with the unleashed pit bull in front of a Bronx housing project. A warrant check found he was being sought by the Miami-Dade Police Department and the Miami field office of the FBI. Police also searched Colon and found 22 bags of marijuana.

Ron Reale, a former president of the New York City Transit Police Benevolent Association, was sentenced June 30 to seven years for pocketing hundreds of thousands of dollars in bribes from union vendors. Three union lawyers, James Lysaght, Peter Kramer and Richard Hartman, were sentenced to 2½ to five years for paying thousands of dollars in kickbacks to win inflated contracts to represent transit officers in everything from loan closings to labor negotiations. Retired transit officers are now suing the defendants for \$500 million to reclaim money they said would have remained in union funds if it hadn't been skimmed.

PENNSYLVANIA — Crashes between Philadelphia police cars and civilian vehicles have risen by 30 percent since 1993, but only about 10 percent of those accidents deemed preventable — about 250 — resulted in any punishment for officers, according to documents filed in a Federal civil-rights lawsuit. The suit was brought by the family of LeeMore Rich, 39, who was killed along with his 7-month-old son last summer when they were struck and

killed by an out-of-control police cruiser. The police car had been hit by another cruiser as both were on their way to assist in an arrest a few blocks away. One driver was suspended for three days; the other is awaiting a disciplinary ruling by a Police Board of Inquiry. Rich's survivors have already been awarded \$500,000 to settle state suits of "negligent and outrageous conduct" and the wrongful deaths of the victims. The settlement, however, did not resolve the civil-rights claims.

VERMONT — Despite a vigorous affirmative-action campaign that includes public relations efforts, career fairs, college visits and broadcast and print advertising, State Police officials fear they will still fall short of their goal of having females constitute 20 percent of the force by the year 2000. At full strength in July, only 7.3 percent will be female.

Southeast



ALABAMA — Defense lawyers rested their case June 2 in the trial of harassment claims made by two former Birmingham narcotics officers. Captain Julius Walker testified that he had not tried to intimidate Sgt. Valinda Oladeinde or Officer Patricia Fields when he pulled out a firearm and bullets from his desk drawer after they came to him in 1991 about fellow officers being involved with drug dealers. The reports by the officers were based on information from confidential informants. Oladeinde and Fields sued former Police Chief Arthur Deutesh and the city, claiming their allegations were ignored and they were harassed for having made them.

GEORGIA — Atlanta Police Officer Alan Richards is free on a \$17,500 bond on charges of felony vehicular homicide and reckless driving. Richards was off-duty, driving a sport-utility vehicle with seven of the underprivileged children he coached in a summer basketball league. The Isuzu Rodeo was hit by a pickup truck when Richards ran a red light, flipping over several times. Two boys, Ed Juan Richards, 13, Richards's nephew, and Arve Black, 11, died of their injuries. Richards' son, 12-year-old Alan Jr., was in fair condition.

LOUISIANA — Cornelius Weaver, 23, has admitted lying to Slidell police about being dragged alongside the car of three white men as they taunted him with racial epithets. Weaver now says he was dragged by two white women as he tried to get back three rocks of crack cocaine the women paid for with a crumpled piece of paper.

MISSISSIPPI — Mario Centohie, an escaped inmate wanted in the killing of Moody, Ala., Police Officer Keith Turner on June 27, was captured July 5 after an eight-day manhunt.

NORTH CAROLINA — National Park Service Ranger Joe Kolodski, 36, was fatally shot June 21 in Great Smoky Mountains National Park after responding to a report that visitors were being threatened by a man with a rifle. Kolodski was shot as he stepped out of his vehicle. The assailant was arrested

about four hours after the shooting.

The State Bureau of Investigation is buried under a mountain of fingerprint cards, as more and more employers are legally required to check the backgrounds of employees and prospective employees. The increased paperwork is causing lengthy delays.

Although city officials cannot legally negotiate with labor unions, Charlotte's local chapter of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers has approached the City Council to ask for better pay and benefits for police. They've also asked the Council to allow officers to hire lawyers when they're the subject of internal investigations. A new billboard appeared in the city in June that read "Working cops are victims, too."

SOUTH CAROLINA — The U.S. Justice Department will investigate possible civil rights violations in the deaths of two black men. Tyrone Salters was shot April 29 during a traffic stop in Taylors, and Chinue Tao Hashim was killed Feb. 19 during a SWAT raid at his home in Greer.

The state Law Enforcement Division is seeking a \$1.2-million Federal grant to offset some of the cost of setting up the state's on-line sex-offender registry. The web site would contain offenders' mug shots and personal information.

TENNESSEE — A rape victim was awarded \$300,000 in damages from the City of Memphis by a Federal jury who found her right to due process had been violated. The woman was attacked in her home on April 20, 1996, while she was speaking with a friend on the phone. The friend called 911, but could not give them the victim's address. One friend offered to meet police near the house and show them the way, but officers never showed up. Transcripts indicate that the dispatcher believed it was a domestic dispute. The attack stopped when the victim's grandmother came to the home and ordered the men to leave. They were never captured.

Shelby County Mayor Jim Rout in late June vetoed a plan to give deputy jailers 9-percent raises and sheriff's deputies and other correctional employees 5 percent. Instead, Rout proposed 4-percent raises for all county employees. In a three-page letter that constitutes a counter offer, Rout also proposed a salary study for deputy jailers, correction officers and juvenile detention monitors and counselors to be completed within six months of the passage of a new salary policy. Half a million dollars would be set aside in a contingency fund should the study reveal the need for higher pay. Sheriff A.C. Gilles is reported to have verbally agreed to a 5-percent pay raise in negotiations with the deputies' union.

VIRGINIA — The Richmond Police Department in early July unveiled its new R-CAT program, short for Richmond Combats Auto Theft, an initiative sparked by a 30-percent jump in auto thefts this year. Under R-CAT, a vehicle owner signs a document authorizing police to stop his car between midnight and 6 A.M., the time most cars are stolen. Participating vehicles will have an R-CAT decal on the bumper and another on the rear window.



ILLINOIS — A veteran law enforcement executive and advocate of community-oriented policing is to be sworn in Aug. 17 as the new police chief in Rolling Meadows. Steven Williams, 49, had been chief in Macomb, Ill., and deputy chief in Lombard, where his policing career started in 1970. He succeeds Gerald Aponte, who left Rolling Meadows in February to become police chief in Manchester, Conn.

MICHIGAN — Serious crime in the state dropped to a 30-year low in 1997, with 429,537 crimes reported. That figure is down more than 23,000 from the year before.

Charlie King Sr., a black Eastpointe resident, and his two sons have filed a \$15-million suit claiming that police routinely stop any black men who are riding bicycles.

A University of Michigan survey of 600 members of the National Association of Social Workers found that about 35 percent of those who try to curb school violence have been assaulted or threatened by students or parents. About one-third of the respondents said they feared for their safety about once a month.

OHIO — A Buckeye State poll of 795 Ohioans found that 50 percent of those surveyed felt some apprehension when they were walking in their neighborhoods after sunset. Forty-nine percent said they felt very safe.

WEST VIRGINIA — A state trooper has been charged with rear-ending a couple in their all-terrain vehicle, then shooting their dog. Motorist Denver Rucker, who was driving with his wife and a friend, stated in a formal complaint that Trooper Clinton Ellison was driving negligently with "utter disregard for the safety of the plaintiffs." After the collision, Rucker said, Ellison killed the Rucker's dog, then lied about it, causing the plaintiffs to continue a search for the dog they believed was still alive.

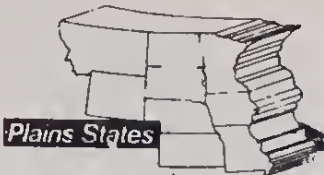
A State Police sharpshooter on June 29 disabled the rifle of a man who was threatening himself and troopers, hitting the weapon's firing mechanism with a shot from a distance of 50 yards. Authorities said Sgt. D.B. Burkhart made such an accurate shot that the .22-caliber rifle stayed in the hands of Elwood Clayton Hyre II, 38, of Keyser. Hyre was subsequently arrested on charges of malicious assault and two counts of wanton endangerment. He was wanted for allegedly shooting a man at the residence of Hyre's former girlfriend, whom the victim was dating.

Juvenile detention centers in the state were ordered in July to take in no more youths due to overcrowding. Local centers hold about 70 offenders, but so many children have been housed that they've been sleeping on mattresses on the floor. Legislators this year have approved \$30.5 million for juvenile detention projects.

Officials say a rise in the number of reported rapes in Huntington means a

rape-awareness program is working. There were 73 rapes reported there in 1996, the latest figures available.

Randy Ervin, 37, was unarmed when he was shot and killed by Cabell County deputies on June 27. Officials said Ervin was trying to get an officer's gun during an arrest.



IOWA — A poll of 800 state residents found that Iowans blame recent incidents of school violence on permissive child-rearing practices or violence portrayed in movies and on television. Thirty-one percent of those in The Des Moines Register poll said child rearing was the problem; 28 percent blamed the entertainment industry; and 20 percent pointed a finger at the availability of guns.

KANSAS — The Overland Park Police Department is seeking help responding to some 6,000 calls it gets each year from motorists needing aid. Chief John Douglass said it costs taxpayers \$100 for every hour an officer spends answering the assistance calls.

MINNESOTA — A record low of only 3,000 people were severely injured in car accidents in 1997, the state's public safety commissioner reported June 25.

MISSOURI — One-third of Kansas City's homicide victims so far this year are age 19 and under. Poverty, drugs and guns are blamed by police and community activists for the murders. In 1997, only 12.4 percent of the city's murder victims were 19 or younger.

St. Louis police say Corrections Officer Charles Hawkins, 28, promoted prostitution by using women under house arrest to run a prostitution ring. Hawkins's job pager number was printed on business cards advertising "Men's Night Out Productions."

MONTANA — Leroy Schweitzer, Daniel Petersen, Dale Jacobi and Russell Landers, the four top leaders of the anti-government Montana Freemen, were convicted July 8 of conspiring to defraud four banks. The scheme was a massive assault on the nation's banking system, said prosecutors, that involved the printing of the defendants' own money, setting their own liens and lying to tax authorities.

More than 1,200 tickets were issued in June by state Highway Patrol officers for seat belt violations. The figure is a 58-percent increase over previous monthly averages.

NEBRASKA — A record number of drivers died on the state's highways in 1997, the third year in a row. So far, 138 people have died in crashes, compared with 116 through June 29, 1997.

NORTH DAKOTA — Portable signs will be put up around the state, warning speeders to slow down and buckle up. The signs, posted by the Highway Patrol, will be used during busy periods. A patrol officer will park nearby to reinforce the message.



ARIZONA — U.S. Border Patrol Agent Hector L. Soto was arrested in Nogales June 15 on charges of suspicion of murder and cocaine trafficking. His alleged crimes were committed in 1994 before he joined the patrol. Soto, 26, is accused in the slaying of Heman Rodas of New York. According to the U.S. Attorney's office for the Eastern District of New York, the murder was part of a plan to steal five kilograms of cocaine from Rodas.

COLORADO — The State Patrol is asking motorists to report any road problems or hazardous drivers by dialing star C-S-P or star 2-7-7 on their cellular phones. Patrol officials hope the free calls will help combat road rage.

Mathew Chrisp, 34, a former Fort Lupton police officer, has pleaded no contest to stealing cocaine from the department's evidence boxes. He faces up to six years in prison.

OKLAHOMA — Allan Mouse, 21, was fatally shot July 5 when he pointed a semiautomatic weapon he had just purchased at a local Wal-Mart store in Mustang at police. Mouse refused to drop the weapon, said officials, and his gun jammed when he tried to fire it.

Rebecca Williams, 24, was killed instantly when a 17-year-old fleeing Tulsa police in a stolen vehicle ran through a red light and plowed into the driver's side of her car. The chase lasted less than two minutes and ended in a four-car crash. In 1997, city police were involved in 176 pursuits; 35.2 percent involved collisions.

Marc Anthony Sanders was sentenced June 19 to the stiffest prison term in Tulsa County memory — 28,001 years. Sanders, 33, was found guilty of seven felonies, including first-degree rape, rape by instrumentation, robbery with a dangerous weapon, kidnapping, sexual battery, forcible sodomy and procuring a lewd exhibition, plus a misdemeanor charge of possession of marijuana. A 10-time felon, Sanders was convicted of robbing and raping the 22-year-old cashier of a Gitt-N-Go convenience store in June 1997.

TEXAS — Dallas Senior Cpl. Al Durst, a Medal of Valor winner, was the subject of a statewide manhunt in June after shooting his girlfriend in the head at their home, authorities said. The victim, 49-year-old Elendia McPherson, was not seriously injured. The bullet went through her scalp and skull, but did not penetrate. Durst fled the couple's west Oak Cliff home before officers arrived. McPherson also works for the Police Department. The couple had been living together for a year. Durst had previously injured McPherson, hitting her with a cordless phone. He was not criminally charged in the 1995 incident, however, because McPherson did not want him prosecuted, said police.

Two separate capital murder indictments were handed down by a Jasper grand jury July 6 in the case involving

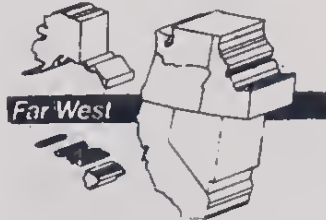
three white men who chained a black man, James Byrd Jr., to the back of a truck and tore him to pieces by dragging him down a road. John William King, 23, of Jasper, and Lawrence Russell Brewer, 31, of Sulphur Springs, were named in one indictment. Shawn Allen Berry, 23, of Jasper, was named in the second. The earliest possible trial date will be January, said Jasper County Sheriff Billy Rowles.

The bulletproof vest El Paso County Sheriff's Deputy Adrian Manzanarez was wearing when two shots were fired into his cruiser on the night of June 20 may have saved his life. Manzanarez was patrolling when he saw a car driving with no headlights. Authorities said the car made a U-turn inside a parking lot, and then someone fired the rounds. The car sped away. Manzanarez did not return fire. He suffered a burn and bruises on his right arm.

U.S. Border Patrol Agents Susan Lynn Rodriguez, 28, and Ricardo Guillermo Salinas, 24, were killed in a gun battle July 7 with a man suspected of killing a woman and her daughter, bringing to four the number of agents killed on the job this year. The gunman, Ernest Moore, was captured after being wounded in the shootout. The incident began when police received a 911 call of shots fired, and found Margarita Flores, 53, and her daughter, Dalia Morin, 31, shot to death. Another man, Dan Morin, 22, was critically wounded. Sheriff's deputies call the Border Patrol for help when Moore fled. Gunfire ensued, and Rodriguez and Salinas were hit with fire from an AK-47 semiautomatic rifle.

UTAH — Former Salt Lake City homicide detective Jill Candland is suing the city for \$5.5 million, claiming she was demoted to uniform patrol because of her gender and her union activity.

The hunt for two survivalists suspected of killing a Colorado police officer in May is being pressed by Navajo tribal police. Authorities said they believed they had Alan Pilon, 30, and Jason McVean, 26, contained along a four-mile stretch of the San Juan River, but they have yet to capture them.



CALIFORNIA — The torture murder of a 17-year-old Orange County boy who was being used as a police informant has prompted legislation that would restrict the use of teens under 15 as snitches. Those 15, 16 and 17 years of age can still be used, but only with the consent of a parent and judge.

Border Patrol agent James S. Bendorf died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound on July 5 at the agency's Brown Field station in San Diego. While it has not been determined whether Bendorf accidentally shot himself or committed suicide, police said the incident was being treated as a suicide. Bendorf, 44, a 21-year veteran of the Border Patrol, was found face up beside his locker, with his service weapon nearby.

Highway Patrol Officer Stephen Lo-

gan is suing the estate of a deranged man who was killed by police just inches away from him. Logan claims that Richard Narvaez, who was killed April 1, 1997, caused him to suffer from post traumatic stress syndrome because of his "refusal to comply and escalating violent resistance to law enforcement officers." Narvaez was pulled over by Logan when he refused to yield to a flagman at a construction site along Route 78 near Santa Ysabel. Narvaez drove off after handing Logan a suspended driver's license. Logan and another officer chased him, not knowing at the time that Narvaez was a paranoid schizophrenic with a criminal record that included domestic violence, drugs and assault. After struggling with Narvaez, who had managed to pull another officer's weapon from its holster and shoot him in the thigh, the suspect was shot to death.

The Federal civil-rights case against two Riverside County deputies who were videotaped clubbing illegal aliens after an 80-mile chase from the Temecula immigration checkpoint was thrown out on June 12 for lack of evidence. Deputy Tracy Watson was fired after the April 1, 1996, incident; Deputy Kurtis Franklin was suspended for a month.

HAWAII — Honolulu International Airport this fall will install a hand-scanning identification system that was unveiled in June at Los Angeles International Airport.

IDAHO — State Trooper Linda C. Huff was in the rear parking lot of the Coeur D'Alene police station when a man on a bicycle fired at her 17 times. Huff, 32, died after radioing for help and exchanging fire with Scott David Yager. The 34-year-old gunman was arrested as he walked along a nearby road.

OREGON — A law aimed at keeping children ages 7 to 18 off the streets in Salem during school hours has reportedly resulted in a significant reduction in daytime crime. In the 1997-98 school year, student victims of assault, rape, robbery and other crimes fell to 106 incidents, from 144 the previous year.

The state Supreme Court on June 25 overturned a voter-approved crime victims' rights law that permitted murder convictions by less than unanimous juries and made it more difficult to bar improperly seized evidence. The court said the measure included more than one constitutional amendment, which should have been voted on separately.

WASHINGTON — A former Tacoma hawender, Brian Eggleston, was sentenced on July 2 to 29 years in prison for fatally shooting Pierce County Sheriff's Deputy John Bananola during a 1996 drug raid at Eggleston's house. The defendant was convicted of second-degree murder in May in his second trial for the crime. The first jury had deadlocked.

Tacoma police believe the murders of four patrons inside a Vietnamese restaurant on July 5 has all the hallmarks of a gang hit. Gunmen charged into the Trang Dai restaurant at 1:30 A.M., wounding six and killing three men and a woman. The restaurant had reportedly been the target of a drive-by shooting two weeks earlier.

Major move

Newport News, Va., police Maj. Alan Chertok will be taking the reins of the Spokane Police Department later this summer, as longtime Police Chief Terry Mangan ends more than a decade of service to the 288-officer agency.

Chertok, 45, said he was "eekstastic" over his selection in late June by City Manager Bill Pupo to head the police force in eastern Washington's largest city. Mangan, a former Roman Catholic priest, retired after 11 years as chief to become an instructor at the FBI Academy's leadership and management science unit in Quantico, Va.

After a "short stint" with the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C., Chertok joined the Prince George's County, Md., Police Department after graduating from Salisbury State College in Maryland. After 20 years of service to the county force, he retired in April 1995.

The retirement proved short-lived. He donned a police uniform once again to join the Newport News Police Department as a command major in charge of the agency's Planning and Analysis Division. In that role he oversaw the construction of an \$8-million communications center, the installation of a new computer-aided dispatch system in about 150 patrol cars and the opening of a new police firing range.

Yet Chertok said most of the credit for his successes should go to the men

and women working for him. "They've really done the spade work," he said.

In an interview with Law Enforcement News in late July, Chertok said he is an advocate of problem-oriented community policing. "I'm very proactive, very much a law and order guy, and I believe that is totally in sync with community."

Among his immediate tasks in Spokane is to nab the serial killer who is suspected of having murdered at least eight prostitutes in the Spokane area. "I'm very confident that the combined task force out there is doing everything it can, but I also believe the city manager will want me to take a fresh look at this," he said of the puzzling case.

Chertok has visited Spokane several times and has gone on ride-alongs with officers, an experience that left him with a good impression of the agency. "The officers appear to be quite energetic and very knowledgeable of policy, especially current high-interest policies like domestic violence enforcement," he observed.

Chertok added that he thinks he and Pupo, the city manager, will make a productive team. "One of the reasons I'm really excited [about the job] is that he has an energy level that appears to match my own. I'm really looking forward to working with him."

Why not retire after nearly 30 years in policing? "I have been working with a view toward taking on the challenge of police chief for a municipal police department," Chertok responded. "And I'm very excited about assuming the command out there. I hope that excitement is infectious."

Stick around

Acting Kennebunk, Me., Police Chief Duug Sharlow recently was named to the post on a permanent basis, replacing James Lavalley, who was fired in May amid charges of nepotism.

In a unanimous vote on June 24, the Kennebunk Board of Selectmen chose Sharlow to lead the 16-officer agency, which serves a town of about 4,000 residents, located about 30 miles down the coast from Portland.

Sharlow was Town Manager Richard Erb's top choice for the post. "The selectmen and I both felt we had the right person in the job as acting chief," Erb told The Portland Press-Herald. "Duug provided great leadership and stability during the past few months."

The vote to confirm Sharlow, a 19-year police veteran, came just a few weeks after the selectmen voted to uphold Lavalley's firing. Accusations about Lavalley's practice of granting favors to family and friends were made by former Kennebunk police officer Guy Emerson, who was fired in June after a review of his military record showed misconduct. The allegations against Lavalley, who was fired May 12, prompted an investigation by the state Attorney General's office.

Sharlow said the department is trying to leave the tumultuous past few months behind and improve its battered morale. Recently, the agency wrote a new mission statement and announced plans for a full-court press to reduce domestic violence and the increasing rate of traffic accidents in town.

Sharlow is credited with co-founding the "Jumpstart" program, in which

Home(town) improvement

New York's new Customs SAC has his plate full

It's been a busy year thus far for John Varrone, the Special-Agent-in-Charge of the U.S. Customs Service's New York office.

Last September, Varrone returned to his native New York, where his Customs career began in 1977, after having served in a variety of posts at the agency's Washington headquarters since 1992.

Most recently, he was special assistant to Raymond Kelly, the former New York police commissioner who was undersecretary for enforcement at the Treasury Department and is now awaiting confirmation as President Clinton's nominee to head the Customs Service. Varrone also served as Customs' representative to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, reflecting the agency's key role in the war on drugs.

The agency also investigates illegal exports of technology, commercial trade fraud and other financial crimes, art forgeries and thefts, and increasingly, "cyber-crimes" — offenses in which computers are used to commit crimes, such as the distribution of child pornography.

Varrone's jurisdiction goes far beyond New York City boundaries to include nine counties in northern New Jersey, Long Island, and the JFK and Newark, N.J., airports. The nearly 300 criminal investigators assigned to the New York office "conduct a variety of reactive investigations at airports and seaports based on [drug] seizures that are made locally, as well as proactive work," he said.

"The work load here is the most



John Varrone, the top Customs agent in New York, says his office has one of the largest, most diverse workloads around.

diverse, and it's the largest [Customs] investigative program in the country," Varrone observed during a recent interview with Law Enforcement News.

One recent, highly publicized case, Operation Casa Blanca, exposed a massive money-laundering scheme based in Mexico and New York. The agency is also seeing a sharp increase in heroin seizures, with New York Customs agents accounting for nearly 40 percent of the national total, said Varrone, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

Varrone spoke highly of the level of cooperation between local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in the New York area. "The heads of law enforcement agencies here enjoy a very supportive

relationship with each other. There is no problem they won't tackle together, and they'll do it without parochialism. I can honestly say without reservation that the law enforcement community here is one of the best in the country. That's demonstrated through the high volume and quality of the work," he said.

Currently, Varrone is implementing several interagency initiatives designed to give Customs an intelligence advantage over increasingly wily drug and "cyber-smugglers," he said. "Cyber-smuggling is an area that's new, and one where we need to develop more sophistication. And there are always new twists in drug investigations. There's always innovation, even in crime, and we need to be moving with it."

the Police Department provides mentoring programs and classes to first-time juvenile offenders in an effort to steer them away from a life of crime.

Boulder choice

A 20-year veteran of the Boulder, Colo., Police Department has taken command of the beleaguered agency, which has endured harsh and widespread criticism for its handling of the JonBenet Ramsey murder case and alcohol-fueled riots involving University of Colorado students.

Mark Beckner, 42, who previously served as commander of the investigations division, succeeds Thomas Koby, the former Texas police official who had served as chief since 1991.

As public dissatisfaction with the department's performance mounted earlier this year, Koby announced he would step down when his contract expired. But city officials wanted to avoid a protracted search for his replacement, so Koby agreed to serve out his contract as a special assistant to City Manager Dave Rhodes.

Since his swearing-in on June 29,

Beckner has wasted no time in attempting to shore up Police Department, launching a reorganization of the agency, which he said had been flattened to such a degree "there were 14 people reporting directly to the Chief."

"That resulted in the Chief having to spread himself too thin," Beckner told Law Enforcement News. "That was too much, and in order to give the kind of attention needed on internal and external demands, it needed to be restructured." Only six officials now report directly to the Chief.

The new Chief split the agency into two divisions, headed by deputy chiefs. Two 20-year veterans will oversee those divisions, with Dave Hayes heading support and staff services, and Jim Hughes leading the operations division.

Beckner said he is reviewing the agency with a fine-toothed comb, looking to make improvements wherever possible. He has beefed up the investigations unit, which also includes a new major crimes unit staffed by six detectives and a supervisor.

"The idea there is that we need a core group of detectives who are going to be there on a long-term basis to have the experience to deal with homicides and other major crimes," Beckner explained, adding that the unit also will get an infusion of training.

While the still-unsolved murder of JonBenet Ramsey, the 6-year-old beauty queen, certainly provided an impetus for the changes, Beckner said, "the need had been there for some time."

"There have been several recent incidents in which we've been stretched so thin," said Beckner, who headed the Ramsey investigation until recently. "We haven't had much choice but to assign inexperienced detectives. That's why we want to integrate the resources that we have. We'll have at least two people in major crimes who can lead that investigation and oversee it."

Beckner said he subscribes to the problem-solving approach to policing, but says it's imperative to involve the community in solving crime and disorder problems. "We need to depend on the community...so we can resolve issues on a long-term basis instead of continually responding to calls for service without making any real impact."

Among other moves Beckner is taking in his first months in office: Increasing training opportunities, and implementing a "master plan" for the agency, with Boulder residents playing a key role in plotting the agency's direction.

"I'm real encouraged," Beckner said of the agency's ability to bounce back. "I have quality people, and I've inherited excellent managers."

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Is Megan's Law showing its darker side?

Critics say recent incidents bolster fears of vigilante reactions

Opponents of community-notification laws say two recent incidents involving paroled sex offenders — the suicide of a California parolee and a shooting at the home of a convicted New Jersey rapist — are evidence that fears about such laws spawning vigilantism are coming true.

Linden, N.J., police on June 30 arrested Jimmy Johnson, 23, a paroled robber they believe fired five shots at a house where convicted rapist Frank Penna lives. Penna was not injured in the June 23 attack, but bullets narrowly missed hitting his upstairs neighbor, 66-year-old Joan Bazydlo. Penna is said to have left the neighborhood the day after the shooting. [See "Forum," Page 8.]

The incident occurred shortly after authorities notified residents of Penna's presence in their neighborhood, in accordance with the state's "Megan's Law." Scores of states have adopted versions of the law, which has endured numerous legal challenges in New Jersey and elsewhere.

Johnson, who relatives said had "snapped" because his sister allegedly lived next door to Penna, was ordered held on \$150,000 bail on charges of aggravated assault, illegal possession of a handgun and illegal use of a handgun.

State Attorney General Peter Verniero quickly responded to the incident with an underscored warning to residents who deign to take the law into their own hands or seek vengeance on paroled sex offenders living in their communities. "The law enforcement community is united in our intolerance of any act

of vigilantism against a known sex offender," he said. "Megan's Law is not about violence or retribution. Unlawful conduct will not be tolerated," he said.

The arrest shows "the resolve of the law enforcement community to bring vigilantes to justice by prosecuting them to the fullest extent of the law," Verniero added.

Meanwhile, in California, the body of a Santa Rosa man with a 22-year history of sexual assaults on women and young girls was found hanging from a tree in Sonoma County, an apparent suicide.

A note left by Michael Allen Patton, 42, describing where his body could be found made no mention of the law or its effects on his life after serving a 13-year state prison sentence for a sex-crime conviction. He was one of 1,600 people in California who have been classified by authorities as a high-risk, violent sexual offender, with his record available for public dissemination under the state's year-old version of Megan's Law.

"I think it's the inevitable consequence," Elizabeth Schroeder, associate director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, said of the suicide.

Schroeder, who is an authority on sex-offender notification laws, said she believed the Patton case was the first in the state in which a suicide followed public notification. A Lakeland, Fla., man shot himself to death last year after the Polk County Sheriff's Department ran a newspaper ad identifying him as a sexual predator who had had oral sex with a 4-year-old girl.

"At some point, we have to have a notion that punishment is over," Schroeder told The New York Times. "What these public-notification laws do is they essentially place a big scarlet letter on someone's chest, that for the rest of this person's life he will be publicly branded. The whole notion of rehabilitation in this country has been lost, particularly for sex offenders."

In the Patton case, a Santa Rosa Police Department official said the agency had followed prescribed notification procedures. Only adults received the one-page fliers with a color photograph of Patton, which were not left in mailboxes or under doors where children might find them. Each flier was accompanied by a one-page letter explaining the provisions of the law and warning of penalties for acts of vigilantism.

"We've discussed it, but there isn't anything we could've done to prevent this as far as I can see," said Sgt. Ernesto Oliveras, supervisor of the Police Department's sex crime and family violence unit.

The unit oversees the mandatory registration of all 242 convicted sex offenders in the city, as well as public notification in cases of those classified as high risks for recidivism. The procedure includes advising subjects of the impending notifications, said Oliveras, as was done in the Patton case.

"I don't know what we could've changed or can change. The intent of the law is to keep people informed and aware of a potential threat in their neighborhood," he told The Times.

Substandards office:

Chicago internal-probe unit in shakeup

Amid mounting criticism of the competence of the Office of Professional Standards in investigating police misconduct, Chicago Police Supt. Terry Hillard recently appointed a new administrator and ordered revamped training for its investigators.

Hillard's actions, which were announced on June 23, fulfilled a promise to revamp OPS that he made shortly after he was named superintendent by Mayor Richard M. Daley in February. The unit has come under increasing criticism for shoddy and inept investigations.

OPS administrator Gayle Shines, a former official with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office who had headed the office for eight years, longer than any other administrator in the OPS's 24-year history, resigned in June in the face of the simmering controversy.

Hillard appointed Callie Baird, 35, an assistant public defender, to replace Shines. Observers said the choice was unusual since the public defender's office and OPS often butted heads over police misconduct complaints. At the same time, the appointment was seen

as politically astute because Baird, who is black, could address concerns in the minority community that complaints against officers aren't taken seriously.

Baird said she had no inkling that she would be called by Hillard to serve at OPS, but told The Chicago Tribune. "I think I bring a fresh perspective. I think that I bring an objectiveness...and I think I bring a decisiveness to the office that is necessary to assess these situations."

The Superintendent also appointed Thomas Smith, a 25-year veteran of the FBI, to handle OPS's most sensitive

investigations. Smith, 53, who has been an insurance fraud investigator since his retirement from the FBI in 1995, said he would try to balance the interests of the public and the police. "You have the public who is interested and demanding that any violation by a police officer against them be prosecuted. And you have the police who also are put in situations that are extremely difficult where they make decisions in split seconds."

Training for OPS investigators will be "substantially upgraded," said Hillard. They'll be required to complete the same four weeks of courses required of police detectives. "That means our OPS investigators will be going back to school," he said.

The unit was created in 1974 by Police Supt. James Rochford after The Tribune published a series of articles on police brutality. At the time, it was one of the first police review boards to give investigative authority to civilians instead of police officers.

OPS has come under fire in recent months, particularly over its handling

of Jeremiah Mearday case, in which two police officers were fired for beating Mearday near his home last September. OPS documents related to the case show that investigators conducted superficial interviews and didn't challenge witnesses' allegations.

Several recent articles in The Tribune also detailed the questionable backgrounds and work habits of some of the 60 investigators assigned to OPS, including one who was arrested for shoplifting in 1996, another who tried to pass himself off as a police officer to get into a concert and yet another who pursued his private law practice on city time.

Bill Nolan, president of the Chicago chapter of the Fraternal Order of Police, said the revelations about some OPS investigators underscored his own harsh criticisms of the unit. "They are ill-trained, and they are inept," he told The Tribune. "These people here... flaunt the law and break the rules and regulations, yet they sit in judgment of our police officers. It just doesn't seem right."

Performance bonuses for patrolers doesn't make every NYPD cop happy

The New York Police Department began paying merit bonuses of up to \$1,400 to officers for exemplary job performance, but the agency is having a hard time getting some of them to accept the stipend.

At least 44 of the more than 1,000 officers selected to receive the bonus have told the department to keep the money, while others are sending in waivers in which they have notified the department that they don't want to be selected for the program. The New York Daily News reported June 23.

The plan was announced by police officials last March as a way to encourage them to make a career out of patrol work, instead of pursuing promotions or special-unit jobs. Under the plan, they were to be designated "patrolman-special assignment."

It was announced shortly after a mayoral task force recommended across-the-board pay raises of up to \$6,000 for all cops. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani denied at the time that the panel, whose recommendations he has roundly criticized, had anything to do with the bonus program.

The plan became mired in controversy once the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association, still smarting over last year's contract negotiations, which re-

sulted in no raises for cops for two years, announced its opposition to the bonuses.

In April, the union's 350 delegates voted unanimously to reject the program.

The PBA views the bonus program as a divide-and-conquer tactic by the Giuliani Administration to defuse dissent over union demands for higher pay, which the Mayor has steadfastly re-

jected. So the PBA has urged its members to reject the bonuses and also filed an unfair labor practice complaint against the city over the issue.

Candidates for the bonuses are nominated by precinct commanders, with up to 20 candidates from each of the city's 76 precincts. Officers who receive the bonus will get it again next year, if they maintain a high level of job performance.

A cop to call your very own NYPD approves paid details for off-duty cops

Ending decades of opposition to the idea of its police officers being made available for private details, the New York City Police Department has started a Paid Detail Program in which private groups or individuals can hire an officer to provide security at parties, meetings and other gatherings.

The department will make uniformed officers available at a rate of \$27 an hour each. About 10,000 officers have signed up for the program since it began on a pilot basis last spring, and 2,000 of them have already served on off-duty, paid assignments.

A top police official told The New York Times that the program is a way

to raise officer visibility among the public. "The public will see more officers out on the street without cost to the city," said First Deputy Commissioner Patrick Kelleher.

A union official was more sanguine. "It's the city's way of acknowledging they pay us so badly," said Bruce Robertson, financial secretary of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association.

All potential "clients" will be scrutinized by the NYPD, and officers who participate will be rotated so they won't develop ties to a particular employer. Those with poor job records or who face criminal investigation or pending disciplinary action may not participate.

Strength in numbers

The number of police officers whose primary duties are patrol and responding to calls for service rose by more than 68,000 officers between 1992 and 1996, when 423,000 officers were on the front lines, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The 19-percent increase brought to 663,535 the number of full-time state and local officers with arrest powers — an increase of 59,000 since 1992, the bureau reported June 7. Per capita, there were 25 sworn and 10 non-sworn state and local law enforcement officers per 10,000 U.S. residents in 1996, compared to 24 sworn and nine non-sworn personnel in 1992.

In 1996, 18,769 state and local

law enforcement agencies employed at least one full- or part-time officer with general arrest powers. Seventy agencies employed 1,000 or more full-time sworn officers, including 41 local police departments, 15 state police agencies, 12 sheriffs' departments and two special police agencies — the New York City public school system, with 2,899 sworn officers, and the Port Authority of New York-New Jersey Police Department, with 1,350 sworn officers.

The largest law enforcement agency in the nation is the New York City Police Department, with 36,813 full-time officers as of 1996. In contrast, 2,245 agencies had just one full-time officer, while 1,164 relied solely on part-timers, BJS reported.

Guns prove one hot seasonal topic

Continued from Page 1

F. Kennedy, was assassinated in 1968, while McCarthy's husband was killed and her son seriously wounded by a gunman in the Long Island Railroad massacre in 1993.

Townsend also announced during the conference that Maryland has become the first state to require serial-number tracing and ballistics tests on all guns seized by police, as part of an effort to cut gun violence by identifying purchasers of guns used in crimes and shutting down gun traffickers.

The state will use the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to match weapons recovered at crime scenes with manufacturers and purchasers, in a program that has helped identify illegal gun trafficking rings in several states. The Maryland program will add about 7,000 traces to the ATF workload next year, officials estimated.

Washington, D.C. — The House Judiciary subcommittee on crime on June 19 approved legislation that would allow qualified active and retired state and local law enforcement officers to carry concealed firearms in all U.S. jurisdictions.

The move was hailed by Gilbert Gallegos, president of the national Fraternal Order of Police, who said the measure is needed to increase safety for the nation's police. He said a number of unarmed and off-duty police officers were killed last year because their assailants discovered they were police.

"Law enforcement officers are targets in uniform or out; on duty and off; active or retired," Gallegos said. "The danger inherent to police work does not end with the shift."

Washington, D.C. — The five-day waiting period to buy a handgun that is a key provision of the Brady Law is due to expire in November, prompting gun-control advocates to raise the possibility of extending it.

The 1993 law provides the waiting period to allow authorities to conduct criminal background checks of prospective gun buyers in order to prevent handguns from falling into the hands of criminals. A separate Federal law passed before Brady prohibits several categories of people, including felons, fugitives, the mentally ill and illegal immigrants, from buying guns.

The Justice Department estimated in June that the Brady Law has blocked about 69,000 handgun sales in 1997. More than three out of every five sales were rejected because the buyer had a felony conviction or was under felony indictment. DoJ's Bureau of Justice Statistics says the rejections constituted about 2.7 percent of the 2.5 million applications for handgun sales last year.

A data base that is to replace the five-day waiting period with an instantaneous, point-of-sale check is due to go on line this fall. But legislators who want to extend the waiting period say the data base will not include a number of local documents that could be vital in determining whether a person is eligible to buy a gun, including state mental health records, restraining orders and domestic-violence misdemeanors.

Gun-control advocates have proposed that the waiting period be extended, but cut to three days. One such supporter of the extension, Representative Charles Schumer (D.-N.Y.) noted

that the issue is coming to the fore during a pivotal Congressional election year. "This is a great issue in the 1998 elections," said Schumer. "To let Brady expire will expose the soft underbelly of the Republicans — that they are extreme on social issues."

Washington, D.C. — Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are debating legislation that would put a \$250,000 cap on punitive damages that small businesses, including some gun manufacturers, would have to pay in cases involving faulty products.

The legislation was scheduled to be debated in the Senate in July, with gun-control advocates vowing to put guns in the same category as tobacco and breast implants, whose manufacturers are not protected by the cap.

"It is only fair that we give victims of gun violence the same right of action that the tobacco companies' victims enjoy," said Senator Robert Torricelli (D.-N.J.), who with Senator Diane Feinstein (D.-Calif.) has proposed an amendment that would prevent the product-liability bill from making it more difficult for individuals to sue gun makers.

Extend the five-day wait? Require trigger locks? Hold gun makers liable? There's something for everyone on the gun issue.

"If this bill passes in its present form, it would limit product-liability suits against gun makers and sellers at the very time we are seeing such efforts prove so successful in the battle against smoking tobacco," said Feinstein.

The gun lobby maintains that the law would only encourage more frivolous lawsuits against manufacturers. "We believe this is a scheme to promote frivolous litigation...such as when someone is suing the manufacturer of a gun that was used by a criminal in a criminal activity," said Tanya Metaksa, chief lobbyist for the National Rifle Association.

Boston — The Massachusetts Senate on July 16 passed the final version of an assault-weapons ban that proponents say will be one of the toughest and most comprehensive gun-control measures in the nation.

The law will ban all forms of assault weapons manufactured after 1994, when a Federal assault-weapons ban took effect. The law also establishes criminal penalties for failing to securely store firearms and requires any new gun sold in the state to be outfitted with trigger locks; increases penalties for several gun-related crimes; bars mail-order gun sales; changes the firearms identification card and license program to require that the documents be renewed every four and five years, respectively; prohibits violent felons and convicted drug traffickers from ever carrying or owning a gun, prohibits possession of sawed-off shotguns, Saturday night special-type handguns and so-called gadget guns, and establishes a record-keeping trust fund to conduct background checks, paid for by half of the licensing fees.

Acting Gov. Paul Celucci said he will sign the measure, which faced a

House vote by July 31.

Harrisburg, Pa. — The state's instant background-check system for handgun sales, which is overseen by the State Police, went into operation July 1. It allows police to check criminal-history records and quickly inform dealers whether the purchaser is prohibited from buying weapons.

Hartford, Conn. — State Senate Majority Leader George Jepsen (D.-Stamford), and Representative Michael Lawlor (D.-East Haven) said in early July they would introduce a proposal to supply 200,000 free trigger locks to gun owners. The action is intended to prevent gun deaths among children who gain access to unsecured firearms.

Boston — Gun-rights advocates appeared before a judge in June in an effort to block regulations devised by Massachusetts Attorney General Scott Harshbarger to require that handguns meet specific minimum quality standards, contending he has exceeded his authority in drawing up consumer safety regulations for handguns.

The regulations are part of

Aaron Graham, a spokesman for Hamilton. "It sends a slightly conflicting message if we, in turn, put them back on the street."

Representative Robert Damron (D.-Nicholasville), who added the provision to Gov. Paul Patton's crime bill, said its critics were misguided because guns sold at auction will be available only for purchase by federally licensed gun dealers. He said the controversy is the result of a "short-sighted, anti-gun mentality."

McDonald, however, is exploring several strategies to bypass the law, including declaring the weapons to be "worthless, encumbered with liens in excess of its value, or otherwise a burdensome asset." The court could then "abandon any interest in them," clearing the way for the weapons to be destroyed.

Another possibility is to find the law unconstitutional — by arguing that the Legislature had usurped "the power of the court by requiring it to act in a way that inherently may be a danger to the public," McDonald added.

Philadelphia — The National Rifle Association on June 19 said it would

take up an offer by Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell for the city to serve as a test site for an NRA plan to combat gun violence.

Rendell sent a letter to the NRA in which he invited the group to join the city in a crackdown that would require the Justice Department to prosecute every Federal gun-law violation in the city. "I agree that such an initiative would produce dramatic results," Rendell wrote to NRA president Charlton Heston.

The NRA said it welcomed the prospect of using the fifth-largest U.S. city to test its contention that gun-related crimes stem from a lack of enforcement, not from lax gun laws. "What we're talking about is having unbending and unflinching enforcement of the Federal firearms laws that are on the books in just one city, as a test case," said Wayne LaPierre, the NRA's executive director.

At the NRA's recent convention in Philadelphia, Heston proposed singling out one city as a zero-tolerance zone for Federal gun violations by increasing the number of Federal prosecutors and investigators. Philadelphia has the highest proportion of murders and robberies committed with guns of the largest U.S. cities.

Portland, Ore. — The city in early June announced the formation of a 16-member Youth Gun Anti-Violence Task Force to trace guns used by juveniles in crimes, target repeat firearms offenders and direct more enforcement activity in crime hot spots.

Reno, Nev. — At its recent annual conference, the U.S. Conference of Mayors backed away from earlier hints that it might sue gun makers, and instead agreed to try working with the firearms industry to pass tougher gun laws and curtail pro-gun advertising.

The 300 mayors from cities across the nation who attended the June meeting had discussed launching a legal challenge against the gun industry, much like that being waged by states seeking to hold tobacco companies liable for the health costs associated with smoking.

But instead, the group set up a task force of mayors, members of the American Shooting Sports Council, gun makers, members of the National League of Cities, and members of the National Association of Counties, who will work over the next three years to implement several proposals. The task force will issue its first report in January, said Philadelphia Mayor Ed Rendell.

Philadelphia — The Philadelphia Daily News is offering free gun locks to area residents as a part of a campaign to stop gun violence.

The newspaper announced in June it would have 1,000 locks on hand that readers can get by redeeming a coupon for a free gun lock, no questions asked. The child-resistant, key-operated locks made of tempered steel, which were provided at cost by O.F. Mossberg & Sons Inc., a shotgun maker, fit 80 percent of the estimated 200 million privately owned guns in the nation.

"Guns are just too accessible, especially for children," said Daily News editorial page editor Morris Thompson. "It needs to stop here — now."

Richmond, Va. — Police say a program that imposes automatic five-year prison terms for felons caught carrying weapons has been a key factor in helping the Police Department dramatically reduce the city's homicide and robbery rates.

Under "Project Exile," gun offenses are prosecuted as Federal crimes, which ensures stiffer bail and tougher sentences, in what authorities say is an experimental strategy patterned partially on successful anti-gun programs in Boston and Philadelphia. The aim is to get guns out of the hands of those who are carrying them illegally — and who are most likely to use the weapons to commit crimes.

Police say the number of gun-related homicides in Richmond, which in recent years has had one of the highest murder rates in the nation, fell to 34 as of June 15, compared to 140 for the same period in 1997. Gun-related robberies also are down by a third.

Gun seizures, meanwhile, continue apace, with 363 firearms seized by police as of mid-June. Of 251 people arrested for gun crimes, 191 have been convicted and 137 are now serving jail sentences averaging 56 months.

Toms River, N.J. — The Ocean County Sheriff's Office is issuing handgun safes to its 80 deputies to ensure that their children do not get their hands on their weapons.

The safes, which can be bolted to the floor or a wall, are being provided at discount to the agency by Sentry Group, a Rochester, N.Y.-based firm, said Donna Flynn, a spokesman for Sheriff William L. Polhemus.

No incident prompted the move, said Flynn, adding that "situations throughout the nation prompted the county to do this to prevent that type of thing from happening."

Be careful what you take

Supreme Court rules on asset forfeiture, parole rights, gun crimes & more

Among a number of decisions handed down in an end-of-term flurry of activity, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled June 22 that the government might be violating the Constitution when it seizes too many of the private assets of criminal defendants as punishment.

The Court also ruled in several other cases involving issues with direct implications for law enforcement, including parole rights and reverse discrimination.

The 5-4 asset-forfeiture ruling, which was seen as a major setback for law enforcement, marked the first time the High Court has struck down a government-imposed financial penalty as a violation of the Eighth Amendment's ban on "excessive fines."

The majority opinion, written by Justice Clarence Thomas, came in a case in which the Government seized over \$350,000 in undeclared cash that a Los Angeles man and his family had tried to bring in their luggage on a flight to Cyprus. The money, which was intended to pay a debt owed by the family, was seized not because it was determined to be proceeds from criminal activity, but because the man violated a Federal law requiring that currency being taken out of the country in sums greater than \$10,000 must be reported.

The penalty for violating the law is the forfeiture of the "any property, real or personal, involved in such offense" — which, in this case, was the entire \$357,144 discovered in the luggage.

Thomas said the punishment might have been warranted if the money's owner, Hovsep Bajakajian, had been involved in crimes like money-laundering, tax evasion or had been trying to skirt Customs. But in this case, Thomas wrote, the Government had lost nothing but "the information that \$357,144 had left the country." Forfeiture of the entire amount "bears no articulable correlation to any injury suffered by the Government," Thomas noted.

The Court ruled that because the 1992 law requires "grossly disproportional" forfeitures from "innocent owners," it is unconstitutional under the Eighth Amendment's prohibition on "excessive fines." Four of the Court's more liberal members

joined Thomas in his opinion.

The dissenters, in an opinion written by Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, called the majority's ruling a "serious error" that "portends serious disruption of a vast range of statutory fines."

The majority appeared to belittle the importance of the cash-reporting rule, the dissenting Justices observed. "Congress deems the crime serious, but the Court does not," Kennedy wrote, adding that one of the few reliable warning signs of some serious crimes "is the use of large sums of cash."

The Court gave no reason for rejecting a Congressional judgment that a "blanket punishment" was the most effective way of addressing that problem. Without full forfeiture, "the fine permitted by the majority would be modest cost of doing business in the world of drugs and crime," wrote Kennedy.

Among other decisions handed down by the Court in cases affecting law enforcement:

¶ In a 5-4 ruling, the Court determined that illegally seized evidence that would be barred by the exclusionary rule from prosecutorial use at a criminal proceeding can be used in parole-revocation hearings.

The decision, with a majority opinion again written by Thomas, overturned a ruling by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The case involved a search by parole officers of the home of a paroled murderer, who was barred from owning any weapons. The officers found firearms in his home, and they initiated parole-revocation proceedings.

"The costs of allowing a parolee to avoid the consequences of his violation are compounded by the fact that parolees (particularly those who have already committed parole violations) are more likely to commit future criminal offenses than are average citizens," Thomas wrote.

¶ The Court ruled unanimously that states have an unshakable duty to abide by extradition provisions set forth in the Constitution by returning other states' fugitives. The ruling forced the New Mexico Supreme Court to order the extradition of an escaped parolee whom the state court had termed a "refugee from injustice" in the Ohio prison system.

The ruling came in the case of a Timothy Reed, a Lakota

Sioux who became an advocate for the rights of Indian prisoners by writing articles under the name of Little Rock Reed before being paroled from an Ohio prison in 1992, where he had been serving time for theft and robbery.

Reed was involved in a minor traffic accident in a borrowed car in March 1993, six weeks before his parole was to end. He paid a \$105 fine, but the car's owner claimed Reed had threatened him in the course of an argument, prompting a misdemeanor charge of "terroristic threatening."

Reed's parole officer called him in and informed him that he would be returned to the Ohio prison without a hearing. Reed contended that his writings critical of correction officials would put him in danger if he returned.

The High Court cited the Constitution's extradition clause, which states that a fugitive "shall on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled be delivered up." As far back as 1861, the Court held "that the duty imposed by the extradition clause on the asylum state was mandatory."

¶ A 5-4 ruling by the Court examined a controversial provision of a Federal law mandating a five-year mandatory prison sentence for anyone who "uses or carries a firearm" in connection with a drug crime. At issue was the question of whether traveling in a car with a gun in a locked glove compartment or trunk — as opposed to carrying a weapon on one's person — met the law's definition of carry. The Court determined that it did.

¶ The Court rejected an appeal in which seven white police officers from Richmond, Va., sought to revive their Federal lawsuit over alleged discrimination against their black and female colleagues. Without comment, the Court disallowed the arguments of the plaintiffs, who contended they should be allowed to sue under a Federal civil-rights law banning on-the-job bias and that they are entitled to protection against being punished for filing their lawsuit.

The plaintiffs had charged that they were targeted for retaliatory action by the department after they accused a supervisor about making disparaging remarks about female and black members of the Police Department in 1993.

Leaner & meaner:

Far-right militia groups dwindle, but...

Fewer far-right militia groups were active last year than at any time since the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, but those that were operating were leaner and meaner than in recent memory.

A report issued in June by Klanwatch, an arm of the Southern Poverty Law Center that monitors hate groups nationwide, warns that despite the dip in their numbers, the extremist groups recently have hatched the largest number of terrorist plots and crimes seen in decades.

Klanwatch's annual Intelligence Report said the number of above-ground so-called "Patriot" groups dropped from 858 in 1996 to 523 in 1997. Much of the decrease came from a drop in the number of militias, which fell from 370 in 1996 to 221 last year.

The project conducted field investigations, studied groups' Internet sites and publications, monitored news reports and interviewed law enforcement officials to arrive at its figures.

One reason cited for the decline is an exodus of "weekend warriors" who once swelled militia ranks but who have become disenchanted with the movement. They "have gone home," the Intelligence Report said, "tired of waiting for a revolution that never comes and turned off by the violence the movement produces."

Nonetheless, the report warned of an surge in criminal activities staged by the groups as the millennium nears, particularly those dominated by "far right-wing zealots hardened in the forge of the Christian Identity religion, a virulently anti-Semitic and racist theology."

It cited several reasons for the expected rise in Patriot group activities, including:

¶ Thirty years of radical-right organizing has produced a hardened cadre of leaders.

¶ The year 2000 is seen by many as the date of a long-expected race war.

¶ The Internet and other technologies have strengthened the movement.

¶ The goals of hard-liners of all ideological stripes are converging.

¶ Many in above-ground groups have gone underground.

Identity adherents increasingly are infiltrating militia groups, particularly those which have claimed not to have racist leanings. This development is a factor in the increasing overlap between Patriot groups and the 474 race- or ethnicity-based "hate groups" documented by Klanwatch in 1997.

"The amalgam of antigovernment conspiracy theories promoted by the Patriot movement has been widely accepted among Klan, neo-Nazi and racist religious hate groups," the report observed. "At the same time, the anti-Semitism and racism that underlie most common-law Patriot doctrine is becoming more apparent, as exemplified by the ideology preached by the Montana Freeman."

It cited an occurrence last year when the Militia of Montana — "one of the first and most influential modern militias and one which has consistently denied racist leanings" — offered Klan robes and Hitler mugs for sale on its Web page.

Identity proponents also sought to

infiltrate the Michigan Militia Corps, following a purge of the group's more radical leaders following the Oklahoma City bombing. Last year, militia leaders "court-martialed" and ejected several members who later were indicted in plots to blow up Federal buildings and other targets.

According to Tom Wayne, the Michigan group's executive officer, Identity followers and other violence-prone members were given an ultimatum — by Feb. 26, 1998, they had to agree to a "constitutional" nonviolent approach or leave. About 200 to 300 hard-liners left, Wayne said.

Girl power asserts itself in the arena of violent crime

In a development that observers are calling disturbing yet predictable, female juveniles are increasingly becoming criminal self-starters, taking the lead in ever-more sophisticated and violent crimes.

In the past, females teamed up with boys and men to commit crimes, but more and more girls are now striking out on their own. Statistics compiled by the National Center for Juvenile Justice show that while arrest rates for teenage boys have remained steady during this decade, those for girls have skyrocketed. Between 1992 and 1996, the last year for which complete figures are available, the violent-crime arrest rate for girls increased by 25 percent, while

that for boys remained flat.

In the same period, the arrest rate for violent crimes committed by girls under 18 jumped 86 percent, while for boys under 18, it went up by 50 percent. Numerically, the figures show that girls still commit fewer violent crimes than boys, making up about 15 percent of all juvenile arrests for violent crimes.

"Clearly, today we're seeing a trend of women initiating the criminality — women as masterminds, women as predators," said Michael Rustigan, a professor of criminal justice at San Francisco State University. "It used to be that female violence was connected with males. Now, we are seeing more women committing crimes for gain,

leaders, while attacks on Army bases, raids on National Guard armories and a series of bank robberies have been planned or carried out.

The report said law enforcement "has been moving aggressively against those who commit criminal acts," and the Federal Government has increased funding for anti-terrorist efforts next year to \$7 billion.

"A large number of plots have been thwarted by authorities in the last few years—plots that foresaw the deaths of hundreds, if not thousands, of people. But the prospects for the future remain daunting," the report said.

conspiracy murders — it's a masculine-type criminality."

Santa Clara County, Calif., Juvenile Court Judge Tom Edwards told the Knight-Ridder News Service that the situation is less a trend than a "hunch — it's things we pick up from our caseloads."

Three recent high-profile crimes involving girls occurred in the San Francisco Bay Area. In two cases, girls are charged with murder, including one who allegedly enlisted a group of teenage boys to rob and kill her stepmother. In the third, several girls, some as young as 14, are charged with terrorizing a 15-year-old gang rape victim to prevent her from testifying.

Casey:

Aggressive approach to Megan's Law

By James J. Casey

Sometime between 12:30 and 4:30 A.M. on the night of June 16, a car slowed down just long enough for five rounds from a large-caliber handgun to be pumped into the downstairs front window of a multi-family dwelling on West 18th Street in Linden, N.J. The target of the fusillade was reportedly Frank Penna, aka Frank Ganganath, a paroled sex offender who lived in a basement apartment in the building. The tenant of the bullet-riddled apartment was Joan Bazydio, 66, who survived the trauma physically unscathed, while fearfully declaring that she intended to find a new place to live.

How did the shooters know the whereabouts of the paroled sex offender? Fliers were hand-delivered to the neighborhood just 10 days prior to the attack by the Linden Police Department. Following the dictates of New Jersey's "Megan's Law," the fliers contained the name of the particular offender, his address, description, past convictions, front and profile photographs, license plate number, car description and place of employment.

Megan's Law, named for 7-year-old Megan Kanka of Hamilton Township, who was murdered by a paroled sex offender who lived on her block, survived numerous court challenges and was fully implemented in New Jersey on Jan. 1, 1998. The law classified Frank Penna as a Tier 3 sex offender, requiring a sweeping notification of his neighbors, informing them that a high-risk sex offender, apt to commit another sex offense, was living nearby. Although the information in the fliers was to be held in confidence and not to be distributed, even in the dead of night assailants had no trouble locating Penna.

Classification of sex offenders under Megan's Law is based upon the degree of risk posed to the community. In New Jersey, it can take up to seven

years to finally classify a sex offender, but the neighborhood in question must be alerted that the unassuming fellow in the house down the street is, in reality, a dangerous felon. People are advised to take the necessary steps to protect themselves and their children. If the parolee is given a moderate classification, schools and day-care centers are to be contacted.

Since the enactment of Megan's Law, New Jersey has seen fit to expand the scope of the notification process to include the markets and shopping centers where the sex offender shops. Schools in the area receive sealed fliers, delivered to the parents of each student, even if they do not live in the immediate area of the paroled sex offender's place of residence. Some states merely give the pertinent zip code of the offender, but New Jersey is empowered to make notification regarding places the offender frequently visits or presumes to visit on a regular basis.

State officials promptly noted that the Linden episode was the first instance of vigilantism in Central Jersey since the implementation of Megan's Law sanctions. Attorney General Peter Vermeiro viewed the shooting as an isolated incident and said he and Gov. Christie Whitman still stood firmly behind the law. Vermeiro, as the state's chief law enforcement officer, stated that he would not tolerate violence or vigilante reprisals aimed at paroled sex offenders. He said he intended to place the full resources of his office behind the efforts of the 21 county prosecutors.

Vermeiro noted that 47 paroled sex offenders had received Tier 3 classifications, and he urged the county prosecutors to fully explain Megan's Law to their individual communities. They had to become more "aggressive" in educating the public in the application of the law's mandates. A memo was issued from Vermeiro's office in Trenton to all county prosecutors, encouraging them to attend more meetings of civic, school and religious groups to clarify the law. The Attorney General cautioned that if we want the law to work — and he saw the public as receptive — then we must avoid taking the law into our own hands. With proper education, a strong message could

be delivered.

Local prosecutors, for their part, responded that each time some negative reaction to Megan's Law took place, the Office of the Public Defender added the instance to its legal arsenal, with an eye toward striking down the entire process. All questions regarding the notification machinery were directed to them by the police. A Released Offenders Unit was established in their respective offices to clarify the distributed community fliers. Planning sessions were conducted to determine the actual boundaries for the notification of parents, manpower needs and the number of community fliers to be distributed. Acknowledging the fact that Megan's Law was not perfect, they admonished all those concerned that they did not wish this measure of public protection to be lost.

Foremost among the harsh critics of New Jersey's Megan's Law is the Office of the Public Defender. Championing the rights of the besieged parolees, these advocates have focused their attacks on the core of the legal matter, namely the law's constitutionality. Public defenders have seriously questioned the accuracy of the numbers of Tier 3 notifications and their accompanying acts of wanton violence. They maintain that far too many reprisals have gone unreported to the police, including threats, harassment, physical attacks, evictions and loss of employment. The American Civil Liberties Union has joined in the chorus of protest, asserting that there are much better ways of protecting the public than by Megan's Law, which has made violent reaction inevitable. In attempting to fix one problem, critics say, a dozen others have been created.

The Public Defender's Office maintains that the greatest weight has been given to past crime, which in turn set the classification level of the sex offender. Sadly, they say, this community notification process has turned the sex offender into a crime victim, desperately fleeing the smoking guns of tormentors. Some (defense-oriented) legal observers assert that sex offenders will gladly risk six-month jail sentences rather than register under the provisions of Megan's Law. Some, they say, have already fled New Jersey and gone un-

derground. The Public Defender's Office has been patiently documenting anticipated and actual vigilante acts against paroled sex offenders, and awaiting the reswinging of the pendulum of public opinion. One and all, contrarians see Megan's Law as no answer or guarantee for public safety.

Until now, the courts have held that the unintended effects of Megan's Law do not render the law an unconstitutional punishment. The U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia is currently considering the legal challenges to Megan's Law, the bedrock of those challenges being the numerous sworn statements of paroled sex offenders, relating the threats, physical attacks and job losses that have stemmed from the law's sanctions.

As required by Megan's Law, Frank Penna's history of sexual misconduct was laid bare in the fliers handed out to the surrounding community. He had been convicted, along with a co-defendant, and sentenced in 1976 for forcing two junior high school students, ages 13 and 15, into a car, drugging them and taking them to a secluded area of Linden, where they raped them. Penna testified that he had engaged in consensual sex with the older girl, but his co-defendant had raped the 13-year-old. Penna served 16 years of a life sentence and was paroled in 1992, reporting to his parole officer on a weekly or biweekly basis. His parole supervision, now on a monthly basis, ends in 2009.

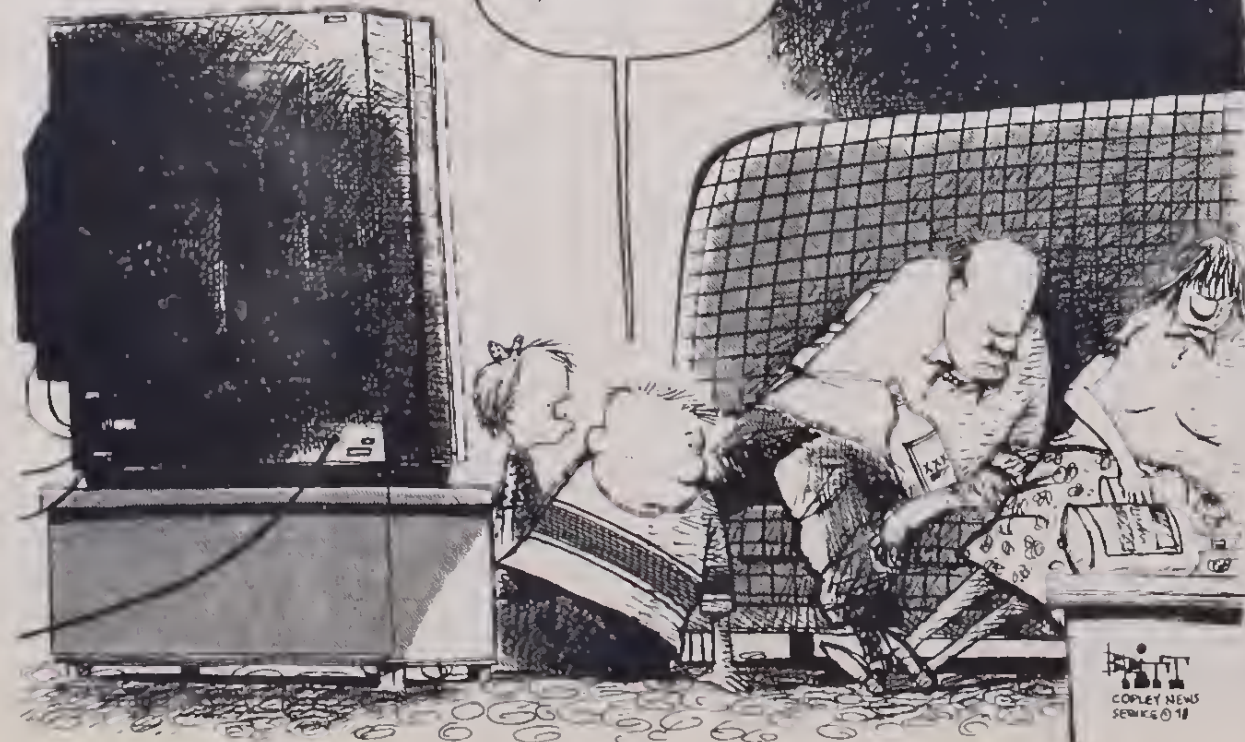
Penna's mother owned the house where he lived at the time of the shooting, although she had previously passed away. He feared the release of the community notification fliers given to his neighbors and hoped that the Tier 3 classification contained therein would not cause trouble. With Penna already having already been threatened by way of hate mail and obscenities shouted from passing cars, the Linden police maintained a close security check on the house on West 18th Street. One neighbor disclosed that he was more concerned about the shooting than the flier. Another, a 17-year-old, stated that Penna liked to sit on his porch and watch the kids coming and going from the elementary school across the street. The teenager growled, "He's a rapist and he belongs in jail!" Whatever the case, Penna's doorbell has been disconnected and he has not returned to the house since the night of the shooting.

Although Attorney General Vermeiro emphasized the singular nature of the Linden drive-by shooting, there was another case of reprisal in Phillipsburg in Warren County, when, in January 1995, two men broke into the residence of a paroled sex offender and beat him severely, breaking his jaw. Alas, they accosted the wrong man! The violent duo were sentenced to time served after pleading guilty to criminal trespass. Not to be outdone by New Jersey, a similar episode took place on New York's Shelter Island, a community on the eastern end of Long Island. There, a man was shot and killed by a neighbor seeking vengeance for the past molestation of a young girl. Two violent reprisals, one mistaken identity, and the result is one broken jaw and one corpse.

The reaction to the shooting in Penna's blue-collar neighborhood was startling, to say the least, and grist for any psychologist's mill. Some neighbors simply shrugged when interviewed and said that the notification fliers were not a call to arms.

Continued on Page 11

WAKE UP!
THE ANTI-DRUG
AD IS ON.



Note to Readers:

The opinions expressed on the Forum page are those of the contributing writer or cartoonist, or of the original source newspaper, and do not represent an official position of Law Enforcement News.

Readers are invited to voice their opinions on topical issues, in the form of letters or full-length commentaries. Please send all materials to the editor.

(A roundup of capsule information on emerging research and development, books and resource materials and other items of professional interest. Items are based on press releases or other materials supplied by manufacturers, vendors, publishers and other sources.)

An Ounce of Prevention: To avoid situations in which persons with medical problems may be mistakenly identified by police as drunk drivers or drug abusers, a free Medic Alert training kit is available for law enforcement agencies. *Contact: MedicAlert, (209) 669-2428.*

Death Takes No Holiday: Seventy-nine law enforcement officers were killed in the line of duty nationwide during the first six months of 1998, according to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund and the Concerns of Police Survivors. The groups said the pace of police fatalities in 1998 has not slowed after a year in which police deaths rose by more than 20 percent. *Contact: Craig Floyd, NLEOMF, (202) 737-3400; Suzie Sawyer, COPS, (573) 346-4911.*

Welcome to America: Outreach to New Americans, a project of the National Crime Prevention Council, has published "Powerful Partnerships: Twenty Crime Prevention Strategies that Work for Refugees, Law Enforcement and Communities." The paperback book (Item M63, \$14.95) looks at a wide range of issues, from gangs and domestic violence to civic participation and self-esteem building, and includes an extensive resource list. *Contact: NCPC Fulfillment Center, P.O. Box 1, 100 Church St., Amsterdam, NY 12010. Fax: (518) 843-6857.*

Getting Out of the City: A new research center at Pennsylvania State University will focus on the causes and impact of crime in rural and suburban America, a field of study said to be historically under-addressed. The Penn State Center for Research on Crime and Justice has already received a National Institute of Justice grant for a research partnership with the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing to look at courts and sentencing issues. *Contact: Vicki Fong, PSU, (814) 865-9481.*

No Time to Waste: "Freeze-Frame: One-Minute Stress Management" is due out in October from the Institute of HeartMath, a nonprofit research organization. Claimed benefits of the Freeze-Frame technique include lower blood pressure, balanced heart rhythms, reduction of stress-related symptoms including fatigue, sleeplessness, tension and indigestion, and increased mental clarity and physical energy. *Contact: Robert Browning, Planetary Relations, (408) 338-8752. E-mail: browning@heartmath.ipc.net.*

Six-Inch Heroes: The Fisher-Price toy company has added two new "good guys who are cool guys" to its Rescue Heroes line of collectible action figures. Jake Justice Motorcycle Police Officer™ and Cliff Hanger Air Rescue Specialist™ are six-inch-tall, poseable figures that come fully uniformed and equipped. Another Rescue Hero, Police Officer Johnny Law™, will join the force in September. *Contact: Laurie Oravec, Fisher-Price Inc., (716) 687-3395.*

Information, Please: Computer scientists from the U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National

Laboratory, under a contract with the Washington state attorney general's office, are helping to update two of the state's crime databases. The overhaul of the Homicide Investigative Tracking System, an investigative database on unsolved cases, and another database for tracking parolees, is expected to be completed by September. *Contact: Staci West, (509) 372-6313. E-mail: staci.west@pnl.gov.*

The Eyes Have It: "Through the Eyes of a Child," a new 22-minute video from Tam Communications, gives police officers and social workers new tools to deal with the unsettling situation of removing children from potentially abusive homes. The video (\$125, plus \$20 for the eight-page supporting handbook) uses role-modeling scenarios and interviews with a variety of professionals to encourage officers to consider all options before making the decision to remove a child. *Contact: Heather Burke, Tam Communications, (408) 279-2400, ext. 143. E-mail: Heather_Burke@tamcomm.com.*

Where There's a Will: Will County, Ill., has awarded a \$1.6-million contract to Printrak International to configure, install and support a computer-aided dispatch system with integrated police and fire department records management. The multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional system will serve an 800-square-mile suburban area southwest of Chicago. *Contact: Francine M. Harris, Printrak International, (714) 238-2000.*

Degrees of Difference: Suomi College in Hancock, Mich., will launch an innovative study program this fall that will provide students simultaneously with a bachelor's degree in business

administration and an associate's degree in criminal justice. The goal is to provide criminal justice students with a grasp of the principles of management, human resources and other administrative skills. *Contact: Jon-Paul Maki, Suomi College, (906) 487-7373.*

Sobering Facts: "Investigation and Prosecution of DWI and Vehicular Homicide," new from LEXIS Law Publishing, offers a practical, step-by-step guide to preparing an ironclad DWI case. The book, which sells for \$100, was written by John B. Kwasnoski, a professor of forensic physics and a veteran accident-reconstruction expert, and Gerald N. Partridge and John A. Stephens, both veteran prosecutors. *Contact: Katherine White, Lexis Law Publishing, (804) 961-5528. E-mail: Katherine.White@Lexis-Nexis.com.*

As Good As Free: The National Association for the Exchange of Industrial Resources is a nationwide nonprofit program that makes new, donated supplies available free (plus membership dues and shipping) to corrections and law enforcement agencies. The items, which include office supplies, computer software and accessories, audio and video tapes, tools and hardware, and janitorial supplies, are provided by U.S. corporations from their overstock and discontinued inventory. New 250-page catalogs are issued every 10 weeks. *Contact: NAEIR, 1-800-562-0955.*

What's Popping Up: The U.S. Army Research Laboratory has filed a provisional patent application for technologies associated with a computerized small-arms firing facility capable of controlling more than 24 pop-up silhouettes at distances up to 2,000 meters,

and collecting and time-tagging shot and hit data. *Contact: Michael D. Rausa, Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator, Federal Laboratory Consortium, Office of Research and Technology Application, (410) 278-5028. E-mail: mrausa@arl.mil.*

Testing, 1, 2, 3: The National Criminal Justice Officer Selection Inventory is a new, state-of-the-art written entrance exam developed by Industrial/Organizational Solutions, LLC. The NCJOSI was designed specifically to predict success for all criminal justice officer positions and to be in strict compliance with all Federal, state and local testing guidelines and regulations. *Contact: Fred Rafelson, Ph.D., President, I/O Solutions, (773) 784-1290.*

Site Visits

(Dedicated Internet surfers within the law enforcement community may wish to check out these criminal justice-related web sites that have come to LEN's attention.)

Join Together: This project of the Boston University School of Public Health has launched a comprehensive site on gun violence that includes daily news summaries, statistics, over 1,200 gun-related articles, in-depth feature stories and contact information for over 200 national, state and local action groups. *URL: www.jointogether.org.*

KnowX™: Described as "the courthouse on the Web," KnowX™, a subsidiary of Information America, is a comprehensive source of public records, which may be useful to Web-enabled investigators. *URL: www.knowx.com.*

The Century Council. This national organization, dedicated to fighting alcohol abuse and funded by the nation's leading distillers, has launched an interactive web site that provides up-to-date information on how states are confronting the problem of the hard-core drunk driver — those who drive with a blood alcohol level of .15 or higher and typically have prior DWI arrests. The site's more than 10,000 pieces of information are organized into five main sections: identification and assessment; enforcement; sanctions; prosecution and sentencing practices, and treatment. *URL: www.dvdata.org.*

Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services. This comprehensive web site offers citizen-oriented crime prevention information, a digest of Maryland criminal laws, a searchable database on sex offenders, links and more. *URL: www.dpscs.state.md.us.*

Federal File

A roundup of criminal justice developments at the Federal level.

The Y2K clock is running

With just over 18 months before the Year 2000 computer glitch is predicted to cause widespread disruption in everything from air traffic control systems to automated teller machines, a new Congressional report has given the Clinton Administration an overall grade of "F" for its efforts to solve the problem. The Justice Department was among the agencies with the worst grades, getting a "D."

The so-called "Y2K" problem is the result of billions of lines of deeply embedded computer codes that prevent computers from recognizing dates past 1999. The cost of repairs is expected to top \$50 billion, according to the Federal Reserve Board.

The quarterly report issued by the House Government, Management, Information and Technology subcommittee found that at the current pace, only 62 percent of the Federal Government's essential systems would be certified as ready by a self-imposed March 1999 deadline, when final testing of repairs is scheduled to begin.

Well-heeled elitists' aim

The White House's top drug policy official has told Congress that critics of tough anti-drug laws are spearheading a campaign that seeks to legalize the gamut of illicit drugs, from mari-

juana to heroin and cocaine.

In written testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on June 17, Gen. Barry R. McCaffrey, who heads the White House Office on National Drug Control Policy, asserted: "There is a carefully camouflaged, exorbitantly funded, well-heeled elitist group whose ultimate goal is to legalize drug use in the United States."

McCaffrey named no names in his remarks, but is believed to have been referring to a coalition of advocacy groups that contends global efforts against drug cultivation, trafficking and use have cost society more than drug abuse itself.

In early June, nearly 500 people signed an open letter to the United Nations Secretary General as the General Assembly opened a three-day special session on drugs that was attended by President Clinton and other world leaders. Among the signers of the letter, which appeared as a full-page ad in *The New York Times* and other newspapers, were former UN Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, former Secretary of State George Shultz and former U.S. senators Alan Cranston and Claiborne Pell. Also endorsing the position was George Soros, the billionaire investor and philanthropist who has spent millions to fund research into decriminalization and lobbying for medical marijuana laws.

"Through a slick misinformation campaign, these individuals perpetuate a fraud on the American people, a fraud

so devious that even some of the nation's most respectable newspapers and sophisticated media are capable of echoing their falsehoods," McCaffrey charged.

Senator Joseph Biden Jr. (D-Del.) proposed hearings in the wake of the General's remarks to "expose [legalization] for the fraud that it is."

Clinton's vested interest

As expected, President Clinton on June 16 signed legislation quickly approved the month before by Congress for a \$75-million grant program to help state, local and tribal police departments purchase body armor for their officers.

The grant program will provide \$25 million annually over three years through the Bureau of Justice Assistance, with state and local agencies expected to provide 50 percent in matching funds.

Clinton also signed the Care for Police Survivors Act, which guarantees a minimum level of Federal funding for programs that offer counseling to the families of slain police officers. He also signed a bill providing \$73 million to 73 jurisdictions to hire 369 new officers through the Justice Department's Office of Community Policing Services.

Stalking's large shadow

Many of the 1 million U.S. women who are stalked each year are physically attacked, and their assailants are

most likely to be current or former spouses and boyfriends, according to the first national study of the crime.

One million women and 371,000 men are stalked annually, the study said, while 8 percent of women and 2 percent of men reported having been stalked at some time during their lives.

The study, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and based on interviews with 16,000 people, is the first national study to estimate the prevalence of stalking, which was criminalized earlier in this decade as part of the effort to toughen laws against domestic violence.

Among other findings:

¶ Seventy-eight percent of victims are female, while 87 percent of stalkers are male.

¶ Four out of five female victims who were stalked by current or former husbands or boyfriends were also physically attacked; and nearly 40 percent of them were sexually assaulted.

¶ More than half of all stalking victims were between the ages of 18-29.

The study's authors, Patricia Tjaden and Nancy Thoennes, said researchers should move beyond studying relatively rare cases of "celebrity stalking," and focus their efforts on "acquaintance and intimate partner stalking." Noting that only about 12 percent of stalking cases result in criminal prosecutions, the authors said prosecutors should not be forced to prove that defendants made "credible threats" against victims to obtain convictions.

55 may be a speed limit, but not a retirement age

A Massachusetts state law requiring that state troopers retire by age 55 has been overturned as discriminatory, in a ruling issued more than five years after scores of officers banded together to file a legal challenge to the requirement.

The ruling on June 9 by U.S. District Judge A. David Mazzone, which bars the State Police from forcing its employees off the payroll at 55, settles a lawsuit filed in 1992 by more than 100 former Metropolitan, Registry and Capitol police officers, who were merged into the State Police in July of that year.

"The defendants' purpose for establishing a mandatory retirement age for MSP officers is a public safety concern of ensuring the physical preparedness and fitness of its officers," Mazzone wrote. "The defendants, however, may not arbitrarily set up 55 years of age as the point at which MSP officers are no longer physically fit to serve on the force."

After the merger, the State Police raised its retirement age by five years to 55, but that fell 10 years short of the retirement age in effect at the officers' former agencies, thus prompting the lawsuit. Mazzone, who in December

1992 had blocked the forced retirements of 30 officers, determined that the mandatory retirement age violated the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, which prohibits firing someone because of age.

The legal action was suspended briefly in 1996 because then-Gov. William Weld was set to file a bill that would have permitted troopers to remain on duty past 55 if they passed a fitness test. The bill remains bottled up in the Legislature, where it has languished since January 1997.

In his ruling, Mazzone noted that Congress amended the age-discrimination act in 1996, adding a provision that requires states to compile lists of all tasks police officers must perform on duty and to develop fitness tests applicable to those tasks. Prototypes of the tests, which must be in place by Sept. 30, 2000, are generally described as indoor obstacle courses that mimic actions an officer might take while chasing and subduing a subject on foot.

According to the ruling, a limited test of 33 officers in November 1995 showed that the best performers in the older age group — 17 officers were 55 or older — performed much better than the worst performers under age 55.

"I think it's great," said Capt. Daniel J. Gately, who is assigned to the State Police staff inspection section in Medford and who was a lead plaintiff in the lawsuit. "If you are physically able to do the job, you should be able to do it."

Trooper Curtis L. West, who is assigned to a State Police barracks in

Dorchester, told The Boston Globe that the mandatory retirement age cuts into officers' earning power. "When you first come on to the job, you figure you're going to stay on the job 'til 65," he said. "Now [the ruling] gives that person enough time to work while his kid's in college."

State Police officials did not immediately

disclose whether they would appeal, saying that they must confer with the Executive Office of Public Safety and the Attorney General's Office before making that decision. In a prepared statement, the State Police said it remained committed to establishing "the best physical fitness testing" for its members.

To settle lawsuit, NYPD gets serious about sex harassment

The New York City Police Department will overhaul its system to investigate allegations of sexual harassment and discrimination, as part of a settlement to a Federal lawsuit filed two years ago on behalf of a female police officer.

Under the policy changes, which were announced at the U.S. District Court in Manhattan on June 18, the department also agreed to be more vigilant against the displaying of pornographic materials in precinct houses, increase the staffing of its Office of Equal Opportunity from 20 to 30 investigators, and begin mandatory pro-

grams to make all 38,000 officers and supervisors aware of procedures for preventing and reporting sexual harassment.

The changes were made under pressure from the U.S. Attorney's Office, following allegations made in the former police officer's lawsuit, in which she claimed her commanders at the 108th Precinct in Queens had ignored her complaints about male colleagues watching pornographic films in the precinct house lounge and posting nude layouts of women around the facility.

After reviewing the charges made by Officer Sheryl L. Goff, U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White filed a lawsuit against the Police Department to force it to be more vigilant about the issue and enact tougher standards to protect female employees. It was the first lawsuit of its kind to be filed by the Federal Government against a municipal police department.

White told The New York Times that the settlement, which gives her office the authority to review all sexual-harassment complaints filed against the department, bodes well for a change in the agency's organizational culture. "Our goal in bringing this lawsuit was to insure that all employees within the New York City Police Department are free to do their jobs without fear of sexual harassment from other members of the department," she said.

Deborah L. Zoland, an attorney for the Police Department who negotiated the settlement, said the case helped police commanders improve policies because it gave them an outside perspective from which to examine the issue. "I don't think the investigations were done poorly before, but they weren't done uniformly," Zoland told The Times. "This agreement will help improve the quality of life for female members of the Police Department."

Goff received a \$320,000 settlement from the city last summer, after the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission found there was "reasonable cause to believe" her complaints about commanders ignoring her protests about repeated displays of pornography in precinct work areas. Goff also claimed a supervisor humiliated her in front of other officers by suggesting she have a bulletproof vest specially made to accommodate her breasts.

Under the new guidelines, desk commanders at each precinct will have to inspect their facilities at the start of each shift and confiscate any pornography they find. Officials also agreed to expand a section of the department's "bible," the Patrol Guide, to strengthen requirements for reporting sexual harassment, as well as a section on supervisors' performance evaluations, in which their sensitivity to harassment complaints will be graded.

Atlanta's crime numbers don't add up, demoted police official charges

Continued from Page 1
Northstar, said the demotion of Arcangeli, who had served in the position since 1993, had nothing to do with the claims he made in a series of memos written to Police Chief Beverly Harward last year. "That information became public after Arcangeli's demotion," she told Law Enforcement News.

Arcangeli has charged police officials manipulated 1996 crime statistics to make Atlanta, which is one of the few U.S. cities not experiencing a downturn in crime, appear safer than it really was during that period.

In a series of memos, copies of which were obtained by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Arcangeli, a 25-year APD veteran, charged that Harward either authorized or knew that deputy chiefs were pressuring officers and investigators to write off hundreds of criminal offenses as unfounded or to reclassify violent crimes as nonviolent offenses. The alleged orders would have resulted in an underreporting of crime to GBI, which tallies Georgia crime statistics, and to the FBI's Uni-

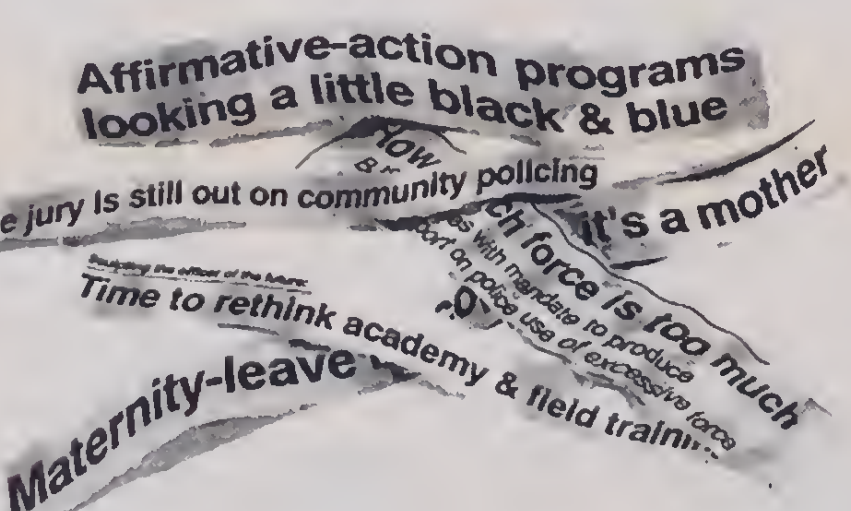
form Crime Reporting program. "I had always wanted to make captain," Arcangeli told the newspaper. "I just never figured I'd make it like this." Arcangeli, who declined to comment on his charges, skipped over the rank of captain when former Chief Eldrin Bell elevated him from lieutenant to major in 1992.

The Journal-Constitution reported in June that Harward, as well as deputy chiefs Bobby Rucker, who is in charge of the Field Operations Division, and Carter Jackson, who oversees the Criminal Investigations Division, are disputing the claims made by Arcangeli.

Harward appointed Maj. Jon Gordon, a 25-year APD veteran to head Arcangeli's former command, which includes several sections and units, including communications, identification, central records, computer services and crime analysis.

Arcangeli, Police Chief Beverly Harward and several other top APD officials were expected to address the City Council hearings.

Headlines are not enough



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Law Enforcement News (7898)

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Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

- 1-3. Street Survival 98.** Presented by Calibre Press, San Jose, Calif. \$199.
- 3-4. Mentoring for the Retention of Women & Minority Public Safety Personnel.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Kent, Wash.
- 3-4. Response to Chemical, Biological & Nuclear Terrorism.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Seattle.
- 3-4. Community Policing in America's Schools.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Spokane, Wash.
- 7-9. Deadly Physical Force — Police-Involved Shootings.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$500.
- 7-11. Forensic Art: Comprehensive Composite Drawing.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$450.
- 9-11. Street Survival 98.** Presented by Calibre Press, Norfolk, Va. \$199.
- 9-11. High-Performance Work Teams.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Ashland, Ky.
- 10-11. Supervising the Problem Employee.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$275.
- 14-15. Police Media Relations.** Presented by the Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute, Dallas. \$250.
- 14-16. Managing the Property & Evidence Function.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, South Brunswick, NJ.
- 14-16. Fraud Investigation Methods.** Presented by the Investigation Training Institute, New York. \$595.
- 14-17. Planning, Designing & Constructing Public Facilities.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, St. Peters, Mo.

- 14-18. Law Enforcement Ethics: Train the Trainer.** Presented by the Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute, Lowell, Mass. \$495.
- 14-18. SWAT 1: Basic Tactical Operations & High-Risk Warrant Service.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Chesterfield, Va.
- 14-18. Forensic Art: Advanced Two-Dimensional Identification Techniques.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$575.
- 14-18. Forensic Art: Facial Reconstruction on the Skull for Identification.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$550.
- 14-18. Heavy Vehicle Crash Reconstruction.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, New Carlisle, Ind. \$750.
- 14-25. Accident Investigation I.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$700.
- 14-25. Supervision of Police Personnel.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$800.
- 16-18. Effective Media Practices for the Law Enforcement Executive.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Alexandria, Va.
- 16-18. Implementing Community-Oriented Policing.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Hudson, N.H.
- 17. Handcuffing Instructor & Instructor Re-Cert.** Presented by R.E.B. Training International Inc., East Windsor, Conn. \$220.
- 17-18. Veteran Officer Tactical Review.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Henderson, Nev.
- 18. Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol Training (Instructor Course).** Presented by R.E.B. Training International Inc., East Windsor, Conn. \$220.
- 18. Conducting Effective Employment Interviews for Entry-Level Positions.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Greer, S.C.

- 21. Grant Writing for Law Enforcement Agencies.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, St. Peters, Mo.
- 21-22. Civil Remedies for Nuisance Abatement.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Albuquerque.
- 21-22. Leadership & Quality Policing.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Keene, N.H.
- 21-23. Computerized Accident Reconstruction I — Introduction to EDCRASII.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$500.
- 21-23. Managing Contemporary Policing Strategies.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Toledo, Ohio.
- 21-25. Police Executive Development.** Presented by the Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute, Dallas. \$495.
- 21-25. SWAT 2: Advanced Tactical & Hostage Rescue Operations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Chesterfield, Va.
- 21-25. Basic Financial Crime Investigation.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$500.
- 22-25. National Community Policing Conference.** Presented by the Portland Police Bureau, Portland, Ore. \$300.
- 23-25. Advanced Tactical Management for Commanders & Supervisors.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Thornton, Colo.
- 23-25. Workshop on Problem Solving: The Seven A's.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Concord, Mass.
- 24-25. Investigative Techniques.** Presented by Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, Oakland, Calif. \$190.
- 24-25. Computerized Accident Reconstruction 2 — Introduction to EDCAD.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$400.
- 24-25. Supervisory Survival for Women.** Presented by Public Safety Training Inc., West Palm Beach, Fla.
- 27-Oct. 2. Annual Tactical Training Course & Conference.** Presented by the

- National Tactical Officers Association, Dayton, Ohio. \$475.
- 28-29. Values-Centered Leadership: A Workshop on Ethics, Values & Integrity.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Virginia Beach, Va.
- 28-30. Fraud Investigation Methods.** Presented by the Investigation Training Institute, Dallas. \$595.
- 28-30. Determining Patrol Staffing, Deployment & Scheduling.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Seattle.
- 28-30. Criminal Investigative Techniques 2.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Bethlehem, Pa.
- 28-Oct. 1. Advanced Hostage Negotiations.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$500.
- 28-Oct. 2. Advanced Financial Crime Investigation.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$500.
- 28-Oct. 2. Microcomputer-Assisted Accident Reconstruction.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$800.
- 28-Oct. 2. Traffic Radar/Lidar Instructor.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$550.
- 28-Oct. 2. Less Lethal Weapons Instructor Certification Course.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Freehold, N.J.
- 28-Oct. 9. Accident Investigation 2.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$900.
- 28-Dec. 4. School of Police Staff & Command.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$2,300.
- 29-Oct. 1. Street Survival 98.** Presented by Calibre Press, Portland, Ore. \$199.

- 5-6. Aggressive Patrol Tactics for Drug Enforcement.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$250.
- 5-7. Internal Affairs: Legal & Operational Issues.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, St. Peters, Mo.
- 5-7. Multi-Agency Incident Management for Law Enforcement & Fire Service Commanders & Supervisors.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Sharonville, Ohio.
- 5-7. Patrol Response to Tactical Confrontations.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, La Vista, Neb.
- 5-7. Computerized Accident Reconstruction 3 — Introduction to EDSMAC.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$550.
- 5-9. Arson Investigation.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$500.
- 5-9. Basic Hostage Negotiations.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$575.
- 5-9. Successful Grantsmanship.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$550.
- 5-9. Executive & Dignitary Protection.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Bellingham, Wash.
- 5-30. School of Police Supervision.** Presented by the Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute, Dallas. \$795.
- 7-8. Street Gangs & Drugs.** Presented by the Northwestern University Traffic Institute, Evanston, Ill. \$250.
- 7-9. Cultural Awareness: Train the Trainer.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Buffalo Grove, Ill.
- 7-9. First Line Supervision.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Denver.
- 8-9. Police Leadership: Managing the Future.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Herndon, Va.
- 8-9. Less Lethal Force Options: Concepts & Considerations in the De-Escalation Philosophy.** Presented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, West Manchester, Pa.

For further information:

Addresses & phone/fax numbers for organizations listed in calendar of events.

Calibre Press, 666 Dundee Rd., Suite 1607, Northbrook, IL 60062-2727. (800) 323-0037. Fax: (708) 498-6869. E-mail: Seminar@CalibrePress.com.

CQC Service Group, Kingsbury Lane, Billerica, MA 01862. (617) 667-5591.

Hutchinson Law Enforcement Training, LLC, P.O. Box 822, Granby, CT 06035. (860) 653-0788. E-mail: dhutch@snet.net. Web: <http://www.patriotweb.com/hlet>.

Institute of Police Technology & Management, University of North Florida, 4567 St. Johns Bluff Rd. So., Jacksonville, FL 32216. (904) 646-2722.

International Association of Chiefs of Police, P.O. Box 90976, Washington, DC 20090-0976. 1-800-THE IACP. Fax: (703) 836-4543. E-mail: IAPSC@IAPSC.org. Web: www.iapsc.org.

International Association of Law Enforcement Planners, c/o Deputy Troy Jess, Snohomish County Sheriff's Office, (425) 388-3829. Fax: (425) 388-3885. Web: <http://www.dps.state.ak.us/ialep>.

Investigation Training Institute, P.O. Box 669, Shelburne, VT 05482. (802) 985-9123.

Millersville University, Department of Continuing Education, Attn: Jacob Haber, (302) 654-9091.

National Crime Prevention Council, 1700 K St. N.W., Washington, DC 20006-3817.

(202) 466-6272, ext. 141. Fax: (202) 296-1356.

National Tactical Officers Association, P.O. Box 529, Doylestown, PA 18901. (800) 279-9127. Fax: (215) 230-7552. E-mail: ntoa@aol.com.

Northwestern University Traffic Institute, 555 Clark St., P.O. Box 1409, Evanston, IL 60204. (800) 323-4011. Web: www.nwu.edu/traffic/

Office of International Criminal Justice, University of Illinois-Chicago. (312) 996-9595.

Portland Police Bureau, Attn: Jane Braaten, Conference Director, (503) 823-0292. Fax: (503) 823-0289.

Public Safety Training Inc., P.O. Box 106, Oak Harbor, OH 43449. (419) 732-2520. Fax: (419) 732-3580. E-mail: 74644.2204@compuserve.com.

R.E.B. Training International Inc., P.O. Box 845, Stoddard, NH 03464. (603) 446-9393. Fax: (603) 446-9394.

Sirechie FingerPrint Laboratories, 100 Hunter Pl., Youngsville, NC 27596. (919) 554-2244. Fax: (919) 556-2266.

Southwestern Law Enforcement Institute, P.O. Box 830707, Richardson, TX 75083-0707. (972) 664-3471. Fax: (972) 699-7172. Web: <http://web2.aimail.net/slei.html>.

Forum: Megan's Law and the mark of Cain

Continued from Page 8

In contrast, a next-door neighbor of Penna's openly confessed that he would now be extremely wary of allowing his small children to play in their backyard. He had recently relocated from a crime-ridden area of Elizabeth, N.J., and wasn't too fond of this new situation. Yet another resident said he was pleased with the informational flier distributed to him, but maintained that Penna did not bother anyone. One old-timer said it was good that Penna had been born there, because if he hadn't, all hell would have broken loose. With his family being known, it seems the people wouldn't bother him. (Sort of like, "We know he is a sex offender, but he is our sex offender.") One onlooker asserted that Penna had the right to standard protection granted to all crime victims, even some necessary therapy.

"And the Lord put a mark on Cain lest any who came upon him should kill him." (Genesis)

Recognizing the seriousness of this first homicide, a higher authority, while refusing to excuse this fratricide involv-

ing Cain and his brother, Abel, still persisted in protecting Cain from the wrath of his fellow man. This "mark of Cain" would follow him forever. New Jersey's Attorney General insists that the vast majority of the informed public will act responsibly. To him, only time will tell if this faith in the public is unwarranted. The Federal and state courts concur that the public will act properly, and that even should vigilante acts occur, they do not constitute extra punishment.

In the opinion of Attorney General Vermeiro, Megan Kanka might still be alive today if her parents had been made aware of the predator in their midst. He said that we could not measure just how many children have been spared due to the notification process, but added that "common sense" forced us to admit that some children have avoided harm in this manner.

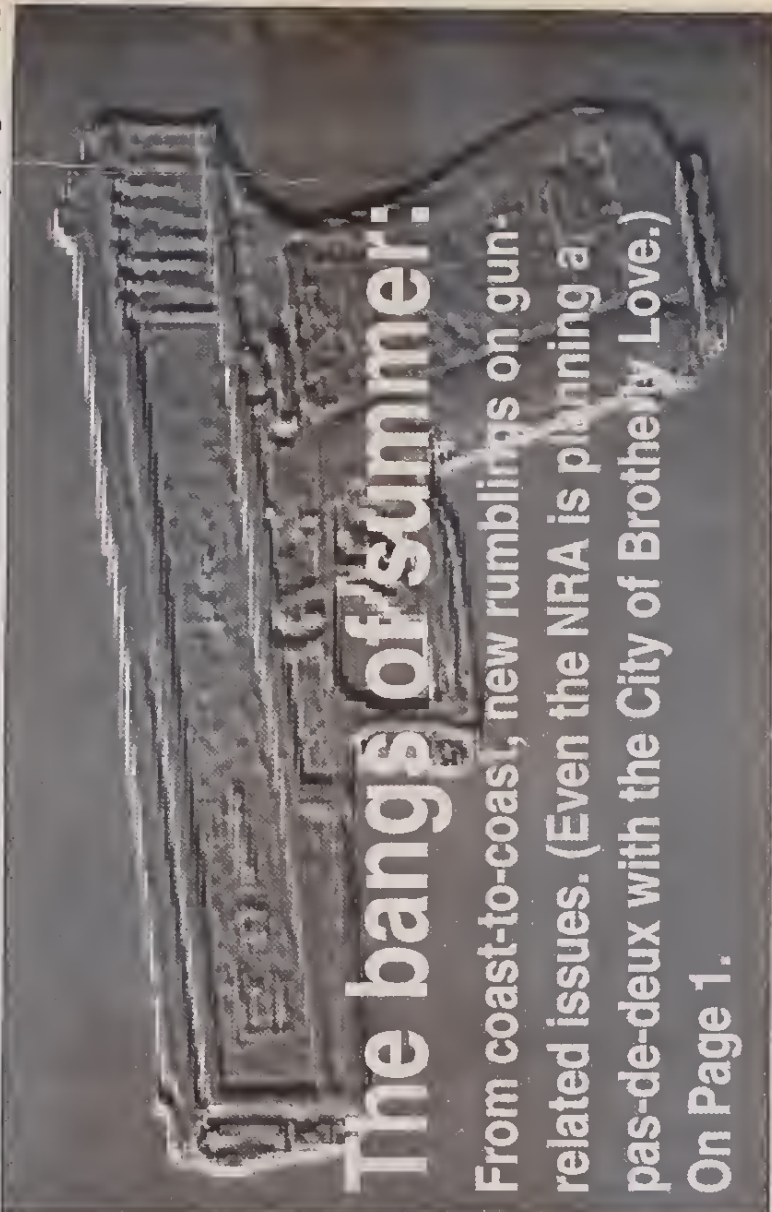
Reams of print have piled up in defense of Vermeiro's position, while politicians from the Governor on down have made public-relations hay with the issue. Bureaucracy has blossomed and flourished as prosecutors and public

defenders alike have rushed to set up Megan's Law sections in their offices. Common sense, however, doesn't cover the futility of education in trying to reach the "good ol' boys," who might come under the influence of some Joe Sixpack who hoisterously informs them in the local bar of the presence of a certain parolee in their neighborhood. Real estate people have already been heard bemoaning the economic impact on property sales of the fliers that have been delivered in certain areas.

Just down the highway from Linden is the city of Rahway, the home of Ronald Terpak, a paroled sex offender who has been collared with a Tier 3 status under Megan's Law. He dutifully registered as a convicted sex offender, as required by law. Now, cautiously peeking out his window, nervously listening for cars that might slow down in front of his residence and suspiciously eyeing passersby, he assures himself that nothing has happened since his neighbors were notified as of Jan. 1. He admits, however, that some people like revenge, and that he is a ready target.

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The bangs of summer!

From coast-to-coast, new rumblings on gun-related issues. (Even the NRA is planning a pas-de-deux with the City of Brotherly Love.)
On Page 1.

1 + 1 = ?

When it comes to crime statistics, 1 plus 1 may not always add up to 2. Just ask officials in Philadelphia and Atlanta. **Stories, Page 1.**

Megan's Law (and legacy)?

Are some recent chilling consequences of public notification proof that some people's worst fears are coming to pass?
Story, Page 5; Forum, Page 8.

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What They Are Saying:

"It's a very big undertaking," he noted. "You've got 83 different patrol sectors, 83 letters with 83 sets of different information. But the effort is worth it."

— Washington, D.C., Police Capt. William P. McManus, describing the Police Department's door-to-door campaign to win back the public's trust. (Story, Page 1.)